

VIDEO EXTRA

You really WILL be amazed

IT'S been billed as the most explosive sci-fi thriller of the year - and I, ROBOT doesn't disappoint.

Will Smith stars in this exhilarating race against time to save human existence from hostile, killer robots.

But it's the superb special effects and plot that will keep you on the edge of your seat in this stunning action-fest.

It's Chicago, 2035, and robophobe Detective Agent Spooner (Smith) is appointed to investigate the alleged suicide of his friend Dr. Alfred Lanning (James Cromwell) - the father of modern robotics.

This is a time when robots have become

by SAM PARKER

commonplace in homes but Spooner suspects a sinister new twist - that robots have turned against Lanning's first law, "A Robot Must Not Harm a Human Being" and that the suicide may in fact be murder.

Crime

When Sonny (Alan Tudyk), a robot that has been taught human emotions, runs from the scene of the crime, Spooner enlists ice-cool robot psychologist Dr Susan Calvin (Bridget Moynahan) to track him down.

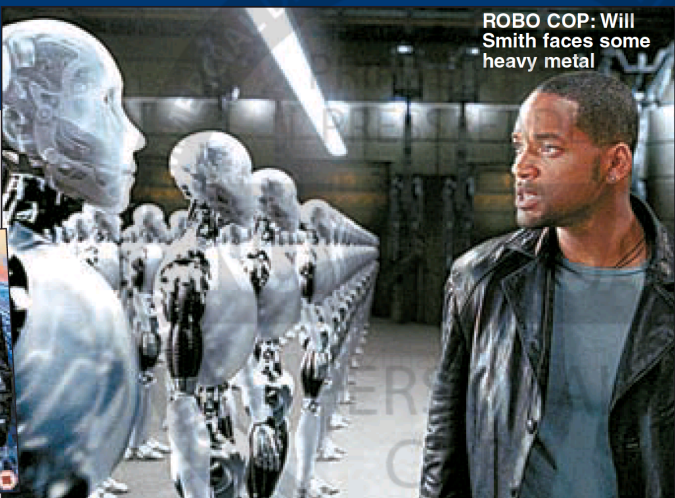
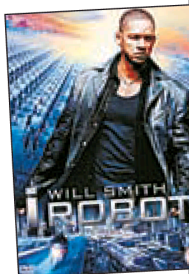
But Spooner quickly works out there's a twist - Lanning left a trail of clues leading up to his untimely death and has reprogrammed Sonny to help them uncover a suspected conspiracy.

To celebrate the home release of I, ROBOT we've got 10 DVDs to give away.

Simply answer this question: In which future year is I, ROBOT set?

Call our hotline, **0905 072 3233**, or text FILM followed by a space, with your answer, name and address, and send to 83426.

Calls cost 75p a minute from a BT landline and should last no longer than two minutes. Texts cost £1 plus your usual network rate. Usual Daily Star contest rules apply.



ROBO COP: Will Smith faces some heavy metal

ALAN FRANK'S VERDICT

I, ROBOT (PG) (FOX DVD/VHS)
WHEN maverick machine-hating cop Will Smith says, "Those robots don't do anybody no good", he's out of step in the brave new world of 2035 Chicago where droids have stepped in to save us from drudgery.

Action blockbusters don't come much better than this with its legions of scarily convincing rebel robots who tell humans "We must save you from yourselves".

Director Alex Proyas stages stunning eye-and-mind-boggling action, including a thrilling attack by ranks of rabid robots on Smith's car in a tunnel and a taut, terrifying climax with robots swarming over a building like ants.

If you fancy fast-moving thrills crafted for maximum satisfaction this delivers to the max.

VERDICT: 9/10



ALAN FRANK'S VIDEO VIEW

BEST OF THE REST

The Stepford Wives (12) (Universal DVD/VHS)
THE 1975 sci-fi shocker about the go-ahead guys who turn their wives into sexy and submissive domestic sex goddesses has been brightly remade as a funny, cynical, satisfying, if ultimately over-melodramatic, satirical comedy.

Nicole Kidman scores as a traumatised former top TV executive who moves, with husband Matthew Broderick and their children, to the idyllic small town of Stepford, where she and raucous writer, Bette Midler, uncover sinister secrets.

Kidman is lovely, Glenn Close is hilarious and Christopher Walken manages to be even weirder than usual. But Midler steals the show with a wildly funny before-and-after performance.

The mocking makeover of a flamboyant gay into a straight-laced US Senatorial candidate reveals that behind the dreamy, white, picket-fenced mansions lurks the all-American nightmare.

Director Frank Oz makes the most of Paul Rudnick's smart script which bristles with happily un-PC jokes.

VERDICT: 7/10

FAMILY CHOICE

It's a Wonderful Life (U) (Holiday Inn (U) (Universal DVD)
EVERY December, another sleighload of Yuletide films come and go without leaving a trace - but that's not the case with Frank Capra's Christmas classic. It's a Wonderful Life, still fresh and fabulous after almost 60 years.

James Stewart rightly won an Oscar nomination



FRUITY: Bette Midler

playing a broke small-town banker about to commit suicide on Christmas Eve. He is saved by an angel who shows him how awful the world would have been if he hadn't been born.

Stewart's triumphant return, after fighting in World War Two, is one of the most heart-warming movies ever made.

And Christmas wouldn't be Christmas either without Bing Crosby crooning that most popular and most frequently played seasonal song, White Christmas.

In the memorable vintage musical Holiday Inn you can see and hear Bing creating his Christmas classic. Fred Astaire, the screen's greatest-ever dancer, is on hand - and at his peak - to rival Bing for Marjorie Reynolds in another Hollywood musical classic.

VERDICT: 8/10

BEST BUY

Star Trek: The Original Series Season 3 (PG) (Paramount DVD £69.99)

AVOID all imitations and boldly go on completing your collection of the legendary small-screen science fiction series with 26 unmissable episodes.

The final voyages of the original, classic Starship Enterprise showcase stars William Shatner as Captain Kirk, Leonard Nimoy as Mr Spock and DeForest Kelley as Dr Leonard "Bones" McCoy in a terrific series of space adventures.

The Enterprise regulars face eerie encounters and tense face-offs with a lively roster of amazing aliens.

VERDICT: 9/10

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TV GUIDE



- 6.00 BREAKFAST** (T) 91271574. **9.15** Moneyspinners (T) 5021672. **10.00** Homes Under The Hammer (T) 65116. **11.00** To Buy Or Not To Buy (T) 6086. **11.30** Bargain Hunt (T) 4144319.
- 12.15 EUROPEAN NIGHTMARE** An elderly couple try to find a missing builder and their missing money (T) 2501390.
- 1.00 BBC NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 89796.
- 1.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** Regional news magazine 98336929.
- 1.40 NEIGHBOURS** See 5.35pm for programme details (T) 32382406.
- 2.05 DOCTORS** Greg has a busy night at the station when a rave goes wrong. Nathan and Tasha's romantic evening doesn't quite go to plan (T) 98100951.
- 2.35 MURDER, SHE WROTE** Jessica discovers that the plot of her new book has been plagiarised for a TV show – but then the producer of the programme is murdered (Rpt) (T) 2900864.
- 3.20 BBC NEWS, REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 8443951.
- 3.25 CBEBIES: NICOLE'S FURRY FRIENDS FRIDAY: BINKA** (Rpt) (T) 8433574. **3.35** The Koala Brothers (Rpt) (T) 9454241. **3.45** CBBC: Looney Tunes (Rpt) (T) 8525390. **3.50** Mona The Vampire (Rpt) (T) 9466086. **4.05** Hard Spell Abbey (T) 4134883. **4.35** The Basil Brush Show (T) 2684222. **5.00** Blue Peter. After months of training, Simon enters the boxing ring. A look at the world of boxing and why the sport is once again becoming so popular (T) 6944609. **5.25** Newsround (T) 7460834.
- 5.35 NEIGHBOURS** Steph and Max agree to try IVF. Izzy finally agrees to see a psychiatrist. Svetlanka warns Luka to stay away from Serena (Rpt) (T) 802777.
- 6.00 BBC NEWS** (T) 38.
- 6.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 90.
- 7.00 HARD SPELL** Eamonn Holmes leads the search for Britain's best young speller. Ten competitors from Wales and the south east will battle it out, but only one of them will win a place in the final (T) 2661.
- 7.30 TOP OF THE POPS** (T) 74.
- 8.00 EASTENDERS** Zoe sees red when she walks in on an attempted seduction. Minty drops heavy hints about his birthday (T) 8609.
- 8.30 MY DAD'S THE PRIME MINISTER** Doctors come and go at Downing Street and people become suspicious. Running a marathon is a perfect chance to prove how healthy the PM is (T) 7116.
- 9.00 HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU** Comedy quiz show that grills celebrity contestants on the week's news. Team captains are Ian Hislop and Paul Merton (T) 6222.
- 9.30 LITTLE BRITAIN** Matt Lucas (who plays Dafydd, amongst others) and David Walliams take a comic look at life in Britain. Also featuring Vanessa Feltz, Nigel Havers, Anthony Head, Geraldine James and Ruth Madoc (T) 63609.
- 10.00 BBC NEWS** (T) 27319.
- 10.30 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** 441208.
- 10.35 FRIDAY NIGHT WITH JONATHAN ROSS** Guests include Little Britain comedy stars Matt Lucas and David Walliams, and actress Jessica Stevenson. There's an exclusive interview with U2, who also perform two tracks from their new album How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb (T) 179406.
- 11.35 AMATEUR BOXING** Great Britain's Olympic silver medalist Amir Khan leads England's amateur boxing team as they take on the leading lights of the USA (T) 201715.
- 1.10-6.00 BBC NEWS** 24 64533013.
- REGIONAL VARIATIONS:** Wales – 11.35 George Michael: A Different Life 308970. **12.35** Amateur Boxing 155452. **2.10-6.00** BBC News 24 35811948.

- 6.00 CBBC 61628. 8.00** CBeebies 862951. **10.30** What? Where? When? Why? (Rpt) (T) 4197661. **10.45** Geography (T) 8108690. **11.05** Hands Up! (Rpt) (T) 2038932. **11.20** Geography (Rpt) (T) 2040777. **11.40** HISTORY (Rpt) (T) 8890609. **12.00** Film: **Busy Bodies** (1933) 9128796. **12.20** **TRADE SECRETS** (Rpt) (T) 3392864. **12.30** Working Lunch 85048.
- 1.30** Seniors Tennis (T) 62715. **3.30** Flog It! (T) 11951. **4.30** **Ready Steady Cook** (T) 3624796. **5.15** **Weakest Link** (T) 7614319. **6.00** **Beg, Borrow Or Steal** (T) 80. **6.30** **Come DANCING: TAKES TWO** (T) 32. **7.00** **AMATEUR BOXING: AMIR KHAN** (T) 1113.
- 7.30** **FIGHTING TALK** With Graham Taylor (T) 16.
- 8.00** **HIDDEN GARDENS** Chris Beardshaw visits a garden created by Sir Frederick Gibberd (Rpt) (T) 9951.



CAMP: Dafydd, BBC1, 9.30pm

- 8.30 GARDENERS' WORLD** (T) 8086.
- 9.00** **EMPIRE WARRIORS** The war between Britain and the Malayan Communist Party from 1948 (T) 5609.
- 10.00** **QI** (T) 18661.
- 10.30** **NEWSNIGHT** (T) 34609.
- 11.00** **NEWSNIGHT REVIEW** (T) 207048.
- 11.35** **BBC FOUR SESSIONS** James Brown (T) 307512.
- 12.35** **FILM: RUNAWAY DAUGHTERS** (1994) (See Guide) 2648100. **2.00-6.00** Learning 4607758.
- REGIONAL VARIATIONS:** Wales – 8.00 A Year At Kew. With Alan Titchmarsh 9951.



MIKE WARD WHAT'S HOT TO WATCH

EVERY so often a comedy series comes along which is so blatantly brilliant it's hard to find words to describe it (hence I end up using an expression like "blatantly brilliant", even though it's gibberish). In this case, of course, I'm talking about Little Britain, the second series of which, having completed its run on BBC Three, starts all over again tonight on great

big grown-up BBC1 (9.30pm) – with just a few tweaks having been made to avoid offending the more sensitive members of the terrestrial channel's audience (by which, of course, I mean green-ink-wielding nutjobs). Among the new characters, look out for the Women's Institute member who reacts to anything she finds distasteful by showering those beside her in a torrent

of vomit (trust me, it's funnier than I've made it sound), and the stomach-churning Bubbles, a clinically obese health spa resident who offers up her wobbly body as payment for her unpaid bills. Yep, the whole series is spectacularly sick and tasteless, even more so than the original, so unless you're some kind of freak you're going to love every minute.

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- 6.10 THE HOOBES** (Rpt) (T) 7875222. **7.00** **84** 5791048. **7.25** **Friends** (Rpt) (T) 5794135. **7.55** Raymond (Rpt) 1928135. **8.25** King Of Queens 5726357. **8.50** Bernie Mac (T) 2264951. **9.15** Supporting Acts (Rpt) (T) 4276154. **9.25** Entente Cordiale (Rpt) (T) 1592425. **9.30** **Quit** (Rpt) (T) 8061845. **9.35** Regency House (Rpt) (T) 9239661. **10.25** Tate Modern (Rpt) (T) 5516715. **10.30** National Gallery (Rpt) (T) 1379628. **10.35** Rude Britannia (Rpt) (T) 9148864. **11.05** National Gallery (Rpt) (T) 9234999. **11.10** Bollywood Star (Rpt) (T) 2212777. **12.00** News (T) 42628. **12.30** Cheers (Rpt) (T) 9918086. **12.55** Third Watch (T) 5317135. **1.50** Dr Quinn (T) 1001154. **2.45** Courtroom (Rpt) (T) 635241. **3.15** Countdown (T) 4178338. **4.00** A Place In The Sun (T) 4208. **5.00** Richard & Judy (T) 7970.
- 6.00 THE SIMPSONS** (T) 48.
- 6.30 HOLLYOAKS** (T) 28.
- 7.00** **NEWS** (T) 966406.
- 7.45** **THE WEST WING** Drama series (T) 709864.
- 8.30** **FRIENDS** (Rpt) (T) 3154.
- 9.00** **THE SIMPSONS** (T) 9932.
- 9.30** **MAX AND PADDY'S ROAD TO NOWHERE** (T) 56319.
- 10.00** **PEEP SHOW** (T) 841086.
- 10.35** **FATHER TED** (Rpt) (T) 745721.
- 11.10** **PUNK'D** 457406.
- 11.35** **BO' SELECTA!** (Rpt) (T) 555357.
- 12.10** **SNOW PATROL: LIVE AT SOMERSET HOUSE** 3209742. **1.15** Green Day 2844636. **1.40** Popworld (Rpt) (T) 1893162. **2.25** Hit40uk 8857094. **2.55** Andromeda 3816839. **3.40** Snowboarding 987181. **5.25-6.10** Countdown (Rpt) (T) 8307346.

S4C As Channel 4 except: 8.25 What's In A Word? 6480068. 8.40 Bollywood Star 4795148. 12.30 Binna 1202058. 12.40 Barru 7077148. 1.00 Sam Tan 4391838. 1.15 A Place In The Sun 39063919. 3.15 Countdown 7078070. 4.00 Unred 5 6916819. 5.30 Rownd 8660877. 7.25 News 5207292. 7.55 Calendr Adient 4082499. 8.00 Pobi Y Cwm 11267845. 8.25 Canolun Milenwm Cymru 86912048. 9.00 Crossover 1 Gymru 69175203. 9.30 Canolun Milenwm Cymru 15633512. 10.00 The Simpsons 5508357. 10.30 Max And Paddy 5854777. 11.00 Father Ted 69187048. 11.30 PEEP SHOW 6066244. 12.00 Film: The Animal (2001) 51052482. 1.30 Puki 7638950. 2.00 Andromeda 49584592. 2.50 Andromeda 19444669. 3.40 Brazilian Football 72431029. 5.35 Close

- 6.00 SUNRISE** 7033319. **6.30** Milkshake! 33919135. **9.25** The Wright Stuff 84124048. **10.30** Sunset Beach (Rpt) (T) 2025951. **11.25** House Doctor (Rpt) (T) 19464338. **11.50** The Wright Stuff Extra 38495845. **12.00** Five News (T) 8436262. **12.30** Home And Away (Rpt) (T) 2338661. **1.00** Family Affairs (Rpt) (T) 3330390. **1.35** **BRAINTEASER** 3356338. **2.35** **TRADING SPOUSES** (T) 1494067. **3.30** Five News Update (T) 48078512.



HEALER: Janet, Five, 8.30pm

- 3.40** **FILM: CHANCE OF A LIFETIME** (1998) (See Guide) 1962512. **5.30** Five News (T) 7616816. **6.00** Home And Away (T) 8547169. **6.30** Family Affairs (T) 4581501.
- 7.00** **FIVE NEWS** (T) 4326319.
- 7.30** **TIM MARLOW'S JUDGEMENT DAY** (T) 4266195.
- 8.00** **HOT PROPERTY** (Rpt) (T) 4335067.
- 8.30** **HOUSEBUSTERS** Janet Ellis invites experts to 'heal' a house (T) 4314574.
- 9.00** **HOUSE DOCTOR: DESIGNS FOR LIVING** (T) 48956609.
- 10.05** **FILM: HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL** (1999) (See Guide) 5205777.
- 12.00** **FILM: IRON MAZE** (1991) (See Guide) 6933617.
- 1.45** Film: Marriage Acts (2000) (See Guide) 3266984. **3.20** Russell Grant (T) 33431926. **3.40** Love Boat (T) 7666452. **4.25** Melrose (T) 9726433. **5.10-6.00** Sons And Daughters (T) 8653891.

- 6.00 GMTV** 7914357. **9.25** Trisha. More heartwarming and shocking true stories with Trisha Goddard and a studio audience (T) 5890870. **10.30** This Morning. Presented by Lorraine Kelly and Phillip Schofield (T) 26319. **12.30** ITV Lunchtime News, Weather (T) 61241.
- 1.00 TODAY WITH DES AND MEL** Des O'Connor and Melanie Sykes host the daily entertainment and celebrity talk show in front of a live studio audience. With guests Cliff Richard and impressionist Kevin Connolly (T) 66796.
- 2.00 I WANT THAT HOUSE BY THE SEA** Today we join Jim and Ros Edwards searching for their dream home by the sea in Florida (T) 6241.
- 2.30 WILDLIFE SOS** Sara rescues some baby squirrels whose home has been destroyed. Simon is called out to a deer that's been attacked by a dog. More tawny owls arrive at the centre. A sick female swan needs help, but should she be separated from her family? 77.
- 3.00 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 6342425.
- 3.15 MIFFY AND FRIENDS** (Rpt) (T) 8448406. **3.20** Angie Benji (Rpt) (T) 8469999. **3.30** Atomic Betty (T) 22. **4.00** Finger Tips (Rpt) (T) 8659357. **4.20** Grizzly Tales For Gruesome Kids (Rpt) 2359425. **4.30** Best Friends (T) 41.
- 5.00 THE PAUL O'GRADY SHOW** (T) 6628.
- 6.00 REGIONAL NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 26.
- 6.30** **ITV EVENING NEWS, WEATHER** (T) 86.
- 7.00** **EMMERDALE** Cain gathers some useful information when he discovers Sadie somewhere she shouldn't be. Robert has to cope with a drunk Katie but his passion for Sadie is thwarted, and The King's Christmas party goes with a swing (T) 7357.
- 7.30 CORONATION STREET** It's crunch time – but will Mike and Fred's relationship go up in smoke? Love is blind for Maria, who's got her fingers in the till at the salon. Vera hits Jack where it hurts when she serves up pigeon pie (T) 70.
- 8.00 TONIGHT WITH TREVOR McDONALD** Linda Dubberly reveals how the average household can cut energy bills and help save the planet (T) 3777.
- 8.30 AIRLINE** It's the festive season, but not everyone is full of Christmas cheer. At Luton, a passenger is stopped from checking in two boxes of dead hares destined for Christmas lunch. A group bound for Athens misses the last plane. An American who has taken a taxi from Newcastle to Liverpool in a bid to make his flight will now not get to Paris until Boxing Day. Local favourite Ricky Tomlinson makes a riotous cameo appearance (T) 5512.
- 9.00 I'M A CELEBRITY... GET ME OUT OF HERE!** The tension is increasing as the number of celebs decreases. The contestants still have to nominate each other for Bushtucker Trials in a bid to earn tastier dishes than their staple rice and beans (T) 9319.
- 10.30** **ITV NEWS** (T) 21135.
- 11.00** **WHEN JORDAN MET PETER** Peter and Jordan take 30 friends and family on a Caribbean cruise to celebrate their engagement (T) 3135.
- 11.30** **BIG NIGHT OUT** 67086.
- 12.00** **LATE NIGHT LADIES** 36704. **12.30** I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! (T) 25433. **2.00** The Paul O'Grady Show (Rpt) (T) 9350641. **2.55** Entertainment Now! (T) 4650384. **3.20** Mixmasters 47958013. **3.45** Beck In Profile (Rpt) (T) 90568. **4.15** Tonight With Trevor McDonald (Rpt) (T) 93267452. **4.35** Get Stuffed! (T) 36924159. **4.45** **ITV Nightscreen** (T) 1038128. **5.30-6.00** **ITV Early Morning News** 37433.

ITV1 MERIDIAN

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** The Grand Tour. Britain's tallest spire was added to adorn Salisbury's great cathedral, built with amazing speed in the 13th century. **7.30** Meridian News, Weather 6342425. **6.00** Meridian Tonight 26. **11.30** The Frame. The race to save the dramatic modernist building Embassy Court on Brighton promenade, once home to film stars and celebrities, but now crumbling away 67086. **12.00-12.30** Hell For Leather. Following the region's speed fanatics, Jane Omorgoe is strapped into the hot seat to experience the thrill of drag racing 36704.

ITV1 WESTCOUNTRY

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Arts And Crafts. Today's programme comes from Truro and highlights the Made in Cornwall scheme. Boscote food victims benefit from the sale of a Celia Duncan painting 77. **3.00** West Country News 6342425. **6.00** West Country Live 26. **11.30** Alcohol Wars. The social, economic, cultural and political impact of alcohol on the West Country. A look at the history of alcohol and how drinking became part of our culture 67086. **12.00-12.30** The Summer Of Love. JoJo meets a group of close friends who take their friendship to the extreme 36704.

ITV1 ANGLIA

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Posh Dinners. Today, a fund-raising gourmet meal for 300 is prepared at Morston Hall and transported 30 miles away to Norwich City Football Club. **7.30** Anglia News, Weather 6342425. **6.00** Anglia Tonight 26. **11.30** Stephen Fry's Shorts. A selection of short films made by writers and directors in the east of England 67086. **12.00-12.30** When Essex Rocked. How Dr Feelgood and Eddie and The Hot Rods made musical headlines in the early Seventies. Featuring archive footage, plus interviews with Billy Bragg and the original band members 36704.

ITV1 CENTRAL

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Out Of The Frying Pan II. John McQuillan draws on his old army catering days to impress a mysterious celebrity at the Regency Hyatt Hotel 77. **3.00** Central News, Weather, Lifeline 6342425. **6.00** Central News At Six. Weather. Regional news round-up 26. **11.30** Rock Legends. A look at the career of Pete Waterman – from humble beginnings in Coventry to producing an amazing 67 top ten singles 67086. **12.00-12.30** Taboo. Series examining the extraordinary sexual activities that ordinary Midlandsers enjoy 36704.

ITV1 WEST

As **ITV1 London** except: **2.30** Beat The Dealer 77. (Wales: **2.30** Steal That Style 77). **3.00** West/Wales News, Weather 6342425. **6.00** West/Wales News, Weather 26. (Wales: **11.00** Crime Secrets 3135). **11.30** Grave Detectives. Focusing on two brothers who should not have been buried in consecrated ground 67086. (Wales: **11.30** Snowdon Mountain Run 67086). **12.00-12.30** Bike Cops. The rookies are put through an intense ride as they practice a blue light run through the city 36704. (Wales: **12.00-12.30** When Jordan Met Peter 36704.)

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PRESSURE

SKY

6.00 DR PHIL 80244. 7.00 Zoids 61195. 7.30 Batman 10680. 8.00 Gamezville 75715. 9.00 The X-Files (T) 4688339. 9.55 Buffy The Vampire Slayer (T) 3482357. 10.50 Angel (T) 8001593. 11.45 ER (T) 769067. 12.45 Scrubs (T) 273425. 1.15 The X-Files. Mulder and Scully investigate a deadly game in San Francisco's Chinatown, uncovering a secret room, a cold-blooded surgeon, and a lottery from hell (T) 5842425. 2.10 Dr Phil 5593970. 3.05 The Sharon Osbourne Show. Kelly Rowland, of Destiny's Child fame, co-hosts today's show 1497661. 4.00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer. Giles returns to Sunnydale with three potential slayers whom Buffy must protect from the First Evil, who means to kill all slayers 44480. 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. A deadly microbe invades Commander Riker's central nervous system (T) 8628. 6.00 Malcolm In The Middle. Malcolm, Reese, Dewey and Stevie sneak out to the county fair, but get locked inside after hours with a drunk, belligerent guard (T) 8593. 6.30 Futurama. First-ever episode of the animated comedy series set in the future. Fry wakes up to find himself in a world filled with heads in jars and Stop 'n' Drop suicide booths (T) 9845.



HARD CELL: Sly Stallone, 9pm

7.00 THE SIMPSONS While on summer vacation, Lisa sheds her bookish image in an effort to make new friends (T) 9357.

7.30 THE SIMPSONS Bart and Milhouse audition for a part in a movie being filmed in Springfield (T) 8357.

8.00 BATTLESTAR GALACTICA After the war with the Cylons, the surviving humans prepare to search for Earth. Number Six appears on the ship, baffling Baltar 27845.

9.00 FILM: JUDGE DREDD (1994) While serving a prison sentence for murder, Judge Dredd meets a fellow inmate with a DNA structure identical to his own. Dredd soon comes to believe that his new acquaintance was responsible for the murder, but proving it from inside the prison is not going to be easy. Science fiction thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone 47609.

10.00 EUROMILLIONS DRAW Live coverage of draw 892932.

10.10 FILM: JUDGE DREDD (1994) The finale of the science fiction thriller 366970.

10.50 VERY WORST... Different experiences from people who have come close to death (T) 726338.

11.50 STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION (T) 193406.

12.50 GAMEZVILLE (Rpt) 1715100.

1.50 Angel Cordelia discovers that to be a princess she must marry a demon (Rpt) 9812520.

2.40 ER (Rpt) 4446075. **3.30** The Sharon Osbourne Show (Rpt) 9490810. **4.20** Hot Love 8186433. **5.10** Kong 8513617. **5.35-6.00** Kong 6478452.



COMEDY CLASSIC: Meg Ryan is sexy Sally on FilmFour at 8pm

telly movies

STAR RATINGS

****Don't miss it
****Good ***Average
***Time filler *Garbage!

CHANCE OF A LIFETIME (TVM, 1998) **** Five, 3.40-5.30pm. Drama. Reporter John Ritter is sacked from his job but things start to improve when he agrees to a marriage of convenience with editor Katie Sagal, especially when true love starts to grow between them. Also starring Jean Stapleton.

HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL (1999) **** Five, 10.05pm-12midnight. Shock. Millionaire Geoffrey Rush offers \$1million to anyone who is brave enough to spend the night in a creepy mansion that was once a home for the criminally insane. When a group takes up his offer, they are unaware that their rich benefactor has rigged the house so he can have some fun for his money.

IRON MAZE (1991) *** Five, 12midnight-1.45am. Mystery drama. Steel mill worker Jeff Fahey is suspected of being involved in the attempted murder of the Japanese businessman who wants to close down the mill, but investigating cop J T Walsh starts to suspect someone else is responsible. Also starring Bridget Fonda and Hiroaki Murakami.

RUNAWAY DAUGHTERS (TVM, 1994) **** BBC2, 12.35-2.00am. Period melodrama. Teenagers Julie Brown, Holly Field and Jenny Lewis set off in pursuit of the teenager who made one of them pregnant. But the boy has just signed up for the US Navy, leaving the girls little time to catch him and make him face up to his responsibilities. Also starring Paul Rudd and Chris Young.

MARRIAGE ACTS (TVM, 2000) *** Five, 1.45-3.20am. Australian drama. The life of a judge living in the suburbs is shattered when a bomb explodes and destroys his complacent attitude as well as affecting the lives of those near him. Co-starring Colin Friels, Sonia Todd and Linden Wilkinson.

ALAN FRANK

FILMFOUR

6.00 PARK ROW (1952) Drama, starring Gene Evans and Mary Welch 6107390

8.00 WHEN HARRY MET SALLY (1989) Two platonic friends form a love/hate relationship that lasts for 11 years, before they finally realise they are perfect partners. Romantic comedy, starring Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan 6119135

10.00 BASIC INSTINCT (1992) A reckless cop falls for the chief suspect in a brutal murder case. Thriller, starring Michael Douglas and Sharon Stone 5282877

12.10 1900 (1976) Bertolucci's epic film traces Italian history from 1900 to 1945 during the rise of Mussolini through the lives of two friends. Drama, starring Robert De Niro and Gerard Depardieu 72351617

5.30 CLOSE

SKY MOVIES 1

5.10 Widows' Peak (1993) 19661845
6.55 Angel Flight Down (1996) 90251048
8.30 Jackie Bouvier Kennedy Onassis 67696203 **10.10** Black Beauty (1994) 41811357 **11.45** The Musketeer (2001) 17185767 **1.35** Barbie In The Nutcracker (2001) 4331932 **2.55** Angel Flight Down (1996) 38351777 **4.30** Black Beauty (1994) 41280512 **6.05** The Musketeer (2001) 10715086 **8.00** Catch Me If You Can (2002) Drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio 60573628 **10.25** Punch-Drunk Love (2003) 611883 **12.05** Igby Goes Down (2002) 555758 **1.45** Life Or Something Like It (2002) 941452 **3.35-5.10** Baywatch: Hawaiian Wedding (2003) Action 200128

SKY MOVIES 2

5.25 Bonhoeffer: Agent Of Grace (2000) 61597116 **7.05** Immune To Murder: A Nero Wolfe Mystery (2002) 38426845 **8.45** Sky Movies News 8134864 **9.20** Run The Wild Fields (1999) 99573574 **11.10** Roxanne (1987) 48422338 **1.05** Stealing Christmas (2003) 39990661 **2.45** Blessings (2003) 38357951 **4.20** Run The Wild Fields (1999) 76205067 **6.10** Roxanne (1987) 38901661 **8.00** Marabunta (1997) 56357 **10.00** Freddy vs Jason (2003) Horror 327932 **11.40** Halloween: Resurrection (2002) 181512 **1.15** Freddy vs Jason (2003) 240100 **3.00** North Star (1995) 261549 **4.35-6.15** Immune To Murder: A Nero Wolfe Mystery (2002) Mystery 80228365

SKY CINEMA 1

6.00 The Fighting O'Flynn (1949) 28058661 **7.45** The Life And Death Of Colonel Blimp (1943) 22493999 **10.30** Dad's Army (1971) 98494086 **12.15** Absence Of Malice (1981) 3841680 **2.15** The Fighting O'Flynn (1949) Adventure 1521135 **4.00** The Life And Death Of Colonel Blimp (1943) 87180067 **6.45** It Came From Outer Space (1953) 7158609 **8.15** Dad's Army (1971) 82210864 **10.00** Mad Max (1979) Action thriller, starring Mel Gibson 9776512 **11.40** It Came From Outer Space (1953) Science fiction 6226661 **1.05** They Came To Rob Las Vegas (1968) 81343926 **3.20** UK Top Ten 50104452 **3.50-6.00** Absence Of Malice (1981) 39869538

SKY BOX OFFICE

Today's films on Sky Box Office Digital at various times throughout the day are:
School of Rock (2003), Kill Bill: Vol. 2 (2004), Lord Of The Rings: The Return Of The King (2003), Against The Ropes (2004), Bad Boys II (2003), The Girl Next Door (2004), Gothika (2003), House Of Sand And Fog (2003), Scooby Doo 2 (2004), Stargate (2004), Along Came Polly (2004), Barbershop 2 (2004), The Calcium Kid (2004), Hidalgo (2004), Monster (2003), Once Upon A Time In Mexico (2003), Welcome To The Jungle (2003), Win A Date With Tad Hamilton (2004), Cold Creek Manor (2003), The Human Stain (2003)

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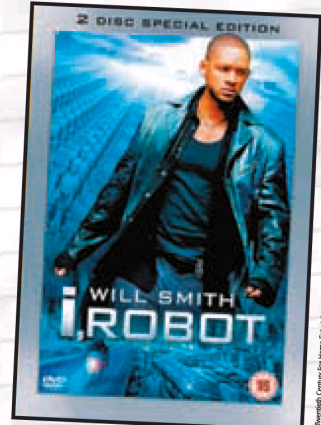
www.game.net

GET I, ROBOT FOR

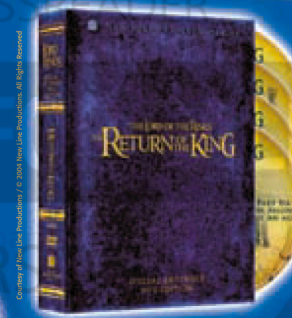
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THE RETURN OF THE KING
EXTENDED EDITION

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E4

2.00 LESS THAN PERFECT Claude is caught in the middle when her charming older brother goes on a date with Lydia 29019048
2.30 ONE TREE HILL Haley decides to throw a party at Nathan's apartment, but panics when things get out of control 27196203
3.30 SMALLVILLE: SUPERMAN THE EARLY YEARS See 7pm 19802593
4.30 HOLLYOAKS 99796932
5.00 FRIENDS See 8pm 29033628
5.30 FRIENDS See 8.30pm 99710512
6.00 WITHOUT A TRACE The team searches for a TV reporter who went missing in the middle of an investigation into the life of a suspected drug lord 81359999
7.00 SMALLVILLE: SUPERMAN THE EARLY YEARS Clark discovers someone is hunting people affected by the kryptonite rocks 0613932
8.00 FRIENDS Joey agonises over his secret affection for Rachel, but Monica thinks he is pining for Phoebe and airs her suspicions, creating a confusing situation for all 29022512
8.30 FRIENDS Joey takes Rachel to the hospital because of pain relating to her pregnancy and realises his feelings for her are excluding Ross from the joys of impending fatherhood 29018319
9.00 RAMSAY'S KITCHEN NIGHTMARES Gordon Ramsay visits The Glass House in Ambleside where he finds owner Neil Farrell close to tears as another Saturday night turns into a nightmare 10619116
10.00 SEX AND THE CITY Samantha dates a man she meets at her analyst's. Featuring Jon Bon Jovi 84473357
10.30 SEX AND THE CITY Carrie dates a man she meets at her analyst's. Featuring Jon Bon Jovi 84473357
11.05 FOOL AROUND... WITH MY BOYFRIEND Show with a twist tempting couples to risk their relationship 84153715
11.35 SHAMELESS When a child goes missing, Frank turns the crowd into a lynch mob 46037628
12.35 Hollyoaks 1.05 Green Wing 2.10 The Secret Life Of Us 2.55 Sex And The City 3.20 Sex And The City 3.45 Close

BBC THREE

7.00 The 7 O'Clock News On BBC Three 7.30 Body Hits 8.00 Trauma 8.30 Little Angels 9.00 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 10.00 EastEnders 10.30 Outlaws 11.00 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 11.30 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 12.00 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 12.30 Mind, Body And Kick Ass Moves With Chris Crudelli 1.00 Brothel 1.30 Outlaws 2.00 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 2.30 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 3.00 Who Rules The Roost? 4.00 Close

SCI-FI

6.00 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 7.00 Teleshopping 10.00 Quantum Leap 11.00 Freakylinks 12.00 Firefly 1.00 The Pretender 2.00 Destination Earth 3.00 The Outer Limits 4.00 Quantum Leap 5.00 Mysterious Worlds: Prophets, Seers Of The Future 6.00 Firefly 7.00 The Pretender 8.00 Children Of Dune 9.35 The Making Of Children Of Dune 10.00 Film: Hellraiser: Inferno (2000) Horror 11.55 Century City 12.55 Film: Repo Man (1984) Fantasy 2.40 The Outer Limits 4.30 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 5.00-6.00 Tracker

BRAVO

9.00 Motorway 10.00 Games Attack 10.30 Gamer TV 11.00 Fish On 11.30 Hot Lines 12.00 Alias 1.00 Police Beat 1.30 Blues 2.30 Police Videos 3.00 Street Crime 4.00 Police Beat 4.30 Police Videos 5.00 Gamer 5.30 Gadgets 6.00 Knight Rider 7.00 Street Crime 7.30 When Games Attack 8.00 Alias 9.00 Street Crime 10.00 Boogie Britain 10.30 Premiership 11.00 Sin Cities 11.30 Laid Bare 5.12.00 Street Crime 12.30 Boogie Britain 1.00 Downloaded 1.30 Laid Bare 5.30 Sin Cities 2.30 AXN 3.00 Close



PRAYING FOR ANSWERS: Cadfael, ITV3, 7.30pm

UKTV GOLD

6.00 Neighbours 6.30 As Time Goes By 7.10 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum 7.50 Doctors 8.25 EastEnders 9.00 The Bill 10.00 Holby City 11.00 Casualty 12.00 Doctors 12.40 EastEnders 1.20 Last Of The Summer Wine 2.00 BERGERAC See 6pm 4982067
3.00 THE BILL Depressed about his future on the beat, Carver unwittingly sleeps with a prostitute and jeopardises his career 2454609
4.00 HOLBY CITY Sam breaks the rules and risks the wrath of Meyer when she becomes too involved with a dying child 2433116
5.00 DANGERFIELD Dangerfield is called to certify the death of a woman who has apparently drowned in a canal 5305951
6.00 BERGERAC Jim is not happy when ordered to give up his holiday in France to protect a VIP from assassination 3904067
7.00 IT AIN'T HALF HOT, MUM The Sgt Major makes a decision guaranteed to cause uproar when he picks a Scottish audience to watch a special English performance 9096338
7.40 LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE Compo realises that he must become a celebrity to have any chance of impressing Nora Batty. Featuring Gordon Kaye 9455048
8.20 THE GOOD LIFE Has the good life come to an end for Tom and Barbara? 3329357
9.00 JONATHAN CREEK Maddy and Jonathan examine the death of a glamorous female illusionist who had retired from magic 15 years earlier after her twin sister had been killed in an accident 6205280
11.00 THE ROYLE FAMILY AT CHRISTMAS The family gather round the television to enjoy the Xmas edition of Animal Hospital 7306796
11.35 FILM: KEEPING THE FAITH (2000) Two friends who have both grown up with religious vocations, one as a Catholic priest and one as a rabbi, fall for the same woman and find their faith and friendship tested. Drama, starring Edward Norton and Ben Stiller 68754390
1.55 The Last Fast Show Ever... Part One 2.45 Weakest Link 3.45 The Bill 4.45 Where The Heart Is 5.45-6.00 Alistair McGowan's Big Impression

ITV3

6.00 Survival 6.55 Peak Practice 7.55 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 8.25 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9.25 Chicago Hope 10.15 The Practice 11.10 LA Law 12.10 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 12.40 Film: 12.55 Survival 2.00 The Practice 2.55 Chicago Hope 3.50 LA Law 4.50 Peak Practice 5.50 Film: 6.00 The Practice 7.00 Outside Edge 7.30 Cadfael. Another adventure featuring the 12th-century monk Cadfael (Derek Jacobi) with a penchant for sleuthing. The monks of Shrewsbury go to Wales to recover the bones of a saint, but encounter local opposition. When the local landowner is murdered, the monks become the prime suspects 9.00 Film: Outrageous Fortune (1987) Comedy, starring Shelley Long and Bette Midler 11.00 Cold Feet 12.05 Chicago Hope 12.55 Film: Outrageous Fortune (1987) Comedy 2.40 Teleshopping 5.40-6.00 ITV3 Nightscreen

EXPRESS SHOPPING CHANNEL

(SKY 636, NTL 637) 8.00 Express Shopping Daytime 5.00 Home Entertainment 6.00 Our Choice 7.00 Gifts For Him 8.00 Our Choice 9.00 Home Entertainment 10.00 The Collector's Edition 11.00 Our Choice 12.00 Close

TELEVISION X

(SKY 969) 10.00 Freeview 10.10 Hand Of The Law 10.30 Omar Show 11.00 Freeview 11.10 C'me On My Face 11.30 Jane's World 11.50 Lubed 12.00 Freeview 12.10 Lesbo Sluts 12.20 30 And Dirty 12.40 Exhibitionist 1.00 Freeview 1.10 Toy 1.30 Superdick 1.50 Fantasy Fix 2.10 Blonde Eye 4.10 North Pole 6.50 Close

lifestyle telly

CHALLENGE

6.00 Teleshopping 7.00 Gladiators 8.00 Crystal Maze 9.00 Fort Boyard 10.00 100% 10.30 TV Scrabble 11.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right 11.30 Family Fortunes 12.00 Wheel Of Fortune 12.30 Catchphrase 1.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 2.00 Blockbusters 2.30 Bullseye 3.00 Celebrity TV Bloopers 4.00 Crystal Maze 5.00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 6.00 Takeshi's Castle 7.00 Craziest Outdoor Outtakes 8.00 Ultimate Guinness World Records 8.30 Blockbusters 8.30 Bullseye 9.00 Classic Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 10.00 PacificPoker.com UK Open 12.00 Ultimate Guinness World Records 12.30 World's Craziest Outdoor Outtakes 1.00 Takeshi's Castle 2.00 Fort Boyard 3.00 House Of Games 3.30 House Of Games 4.00 100% 4.30 Family Fortunes 5.00 Wheel Of Fortune 5.30-6.00 Teleshopping

HISTORY

8.00 Britain's Secret Army 8.30 Britain's War Heroes 9.00 Sharpe's War 10.00 Masada 11.00 World At War 1.00 Great Commanders 2.00 Soviet UFO Secrets Revealed 3.00 Tech Effect 3.30 Command Decisions 4.00 Martin Bormann: In The Fuhrer's Shadow 5.00 World At War 6.00 World At War 7.00 Line Of Fire. Looking at a battle during Napoleon's invasion of Russia 8.00 Inviting Disaster: Structures That Fall - Three Mile Island. Author Jim Chim explores buildings that have gone wrong 9.00 Beyond The Shuttle 10.00 Cold Case Files 11.00 The World At War 12.00 The World At War 1.00 James Bond's Gadgets II 2.00 Close

DISCOVERY

6.00 Untamed Amazonia 7.00 Extreme Machines 8.00 Ultimate Cars 8.30 Classic British Aircraft 9.00 Extreme Engineering 10.00 Salvage Squad 11.00 Ultimate Cars 11.30 5th Gear 12.00 Real Race 1.00 Time Team 2.00 Charge Of The Light Brigade 3.00 Hitler 4.00 Battle For The Skies 5.00 Ultimate Cars 5.30 5th Gear 6.00 Reel Race 7.00 Time Team 8.00 American Chopper 9.00 Worst Jobs In History 10.00 Al Murray's Road To Berlin 10.30 Bloody Britain 11.00 Forensic Detectives 12.00 Trauma 1.00 Impact 2.00 Al Murray's Road To Berlin 2.30 Bloody Britain 3.00 The Worst Jobs In History 4.00 American Chopper 5.00-6.00 Time Team

LIVINGTV

6.00 Home Shopping 7.00 Tiny Living 10.00 Birth Stories 10.30 Med Studies 11.00 Charmed 12.00 Ricki Lake 12.50 Sixth Sense With Colin Fry 1.20 Crossing Over 1.50 Will & Grace 2.50 Everwood 3.45 According To Jim 4.15 Charmed 6.05 Will & Grace 6.35 Will & Grace 7.00 Celebrity Snappers 7.30 Retail Therapy 8.00 Will & Grace 8.30 Will & Grace 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation 10.00 The L Word 11.05 Moulin Rouge Girls 12.00 Mr Gay UK 2004 1.30 Celebrity Extra 2.00 All Access: Celebrity Break-Ups 2.50 Hollywood Star Treatment 3.00 Arresting Design 3.50 Cold Squad 4.45 Ricki Lake 5.30-6.00 Home Shopping

pop telly

MTV

6.00 VH1 Breakfast Club 7.00 Astro Day 8.00 Fabulous Life Of Simon Cowell 8.30 25 Years Of Floorfillers 11.00 Top 20 Songs Of The 21st Century 1.00 Top 20 Abba 3.00 Top Ten 4.00 The Bee Gees One Night Only Concert 6.00 Robbie's Greatest Hits 7.00 When Michael Jackson Ruled The World. Documentary looking at Michael Jackson 8.00 Top 40 Greatest Artists Ever 12.00 Robbie's Greatest Hits 1.00 I Wanna Text You Up 3.00-6.00 VH1's Greatest Hits

VH-1

6.00 VH1 Breakfast Club 7.00 Astro Day 8.00 Fabulous Life Of Simon Cowell 8.30 25 Years Of Floorfillers 11.00 Top 20 Songs Of The 21st Century 1.00 Top 20 Abba 3.00 Top Ten 4.00 The Bee Gees One Night Only Concert 6.00 Robbie's Greatest Hits 7.00 When Michael Jackson Ruled The World. Documentary looking at Michael Jackson 8.00 Top 40 Greatest Artists Ever 12.00 Robbie's Greatest Hits 1.00 I Wanna Text You Up 3.00-6.00 VH1's Greatest Hits

sporty telly

SKY SPORTS 1

6.00 ATP TENNIS Round-up of the week's events on the ATP Tour 64574
6.30 EUROPEAN TOUR GOLF: OMEGA HONG KONG OPEN 291574
9.00 LIVE GOLF: NEDBANK SUN CITY CHALLENGE Golfing action from day two of the Nedbank Golf Challenge at the Gary Player Country Club in Sun City, South Africa 1050715
3.00 EUROPEAN TOUR GOLF: OMEGA HONG KONG OPEN Golf action from day two of the Omega Hong Kong Open from the Hong Kong Golf Club 66135
5.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 1048
5.30 ICC CRICKET WORLD A Look at the week in international cricket with the latest action, news and features from around the world 2338
6.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW A A quirky look ahead to the weekend's sport with the Soccer AM team 90864
7.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW Preview of the forthcoming weekend's Premier League action, with up-to-date team news 4512
7.30 LIVE FA CUP FOOTBALL: SCUNTHORPE UNITED V WREXHAM Second-round action from Glanford Park as Coca Cola League Two table-toppers attempt to beat cash-strapped Wrexham from the Coca Cola League above them. Kick-off at 7.45pm 325970
10.00 LIVE FRIDAY FIGHT NIGHT Super-featherweight boxing action as Alex Arthur fights at the Meadowbank Sports Centre in Edinburgh 48864
12.00 WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT: LATE NIGHT RAW Jim Ross and Jerry Lawler present the latest action from the world wrestling entertainment circuit 39988
2.00 FRIDAY FIGHT NIGHT Super-featherweight boxing action as Alex Arthur fights at the Meadowbank Sports Centre in Edinburgh 34617
4.00 SOCCER AM'S ALL SPORTS SHOW A A quirky look ahead to the weekend's sport with the Soccer AM team 72075
5.00 PREMIER LEAGUE PREVIEW SHOW 42452
5.30-6.00 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT A comprehensive global round-up of alternative sporting action, from the mayhem of Aussie Rules football to the excitement of Indy Car racing 20181

SKY SPORTS 2

6.00 AEROBICS 2394796
6.30 Freeze Sports 5787715
7.00 Aerobics 7905932
7.30 Freeze Sports 7924067
8.00 The Rugby Club 4044999
9.00 Racing News 8945970
9.30 Aerobics 9460048
10.00 Football League Review 7913951
11.00 The Rugby Club 7933715
12.00 Trans World Sport 9483999
1.00 Football League Review 9469319
2.00 The Rugby Club 5760796
3.00 Trans World Sport 3727048
4.00 Football League Review 3739883
5.00 NFL Weekly Review 8786154
6.00 Tight Lines 9472883
7.00 LIVE EUROPEAN RUGBY CUP: CASTRES V MUNSTER Heineken Cup action from the Stade Pierre-Antoine. Kick-off at 7.30pm 2355680
10.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 2526512
11.00 Premier League Preview Show 3730512
11.30 ICC Cricket World 5758951
12.00 Football: Scunthorpe United v Wrexham 7404015
1.30 World Bridge Team Olympiad 1366278
2.30 NFL Weekly Review 6565636
3.30 Tight Lines 6560181
4.30-6.00 Football: Scunthorpe United v Wrexham 1053384

SKY SPORTS 3

10.00 SPEEDWAY: WORLD LONGTRACK FINAL 26684319
11.00 Racing News 73341951
11.30 Aerobics 73342680
12.00 European Drag Racing 2004 5717224
12.30 Wild Spirits 48270852
1.00 Race World 43220357
2.00 Freeze Sports 48617593
2.30 NBA Action 8815154
3.00 Speedway: World Longtrack Final 73353796
4.00 Race World 7332203
5.00 MOTO + Motoring magazine 48608845
5.30 GILLETTE WORLD SPORT A comprehensive global round-up of alternative sporting action 88155970
6.00 EUROPEAN TOUR GOLF: OMEGA HONG KONG OPEN Action from day two 26222319
8.00 GOLF: NEDBANK SUN CITY CHALLENGE Day two of the Nedbank Golf Challenge 88378951
11.00 EUROPEAN TOUR GOLF: OMEGA HONG KONG OPEN 21940628
1.00 EUROPEAN RUGBY CUP: CASTRES V MUNSTER 15279520
2.30 CLOSE
5.30-6.00 LIVE EUROPEAN TOUR GOLF Action from the European PGA Tour 13982723

AT THE RACES: Racing news from 9am-1am

EUROSPORT

7.30 TOBOGGANING Coverage of the men's skeleton World Cup from Germany 43512
8.30 FOOTBALL: UEFA CUP 72154
10.00 LIVE FUTSAL Five-a-side football action from the FIFA World Futsal Championships 40609
11.30 FOOTBALL: UEFA CUP 99154
12.30 LIVE FUTSAL Five-a-side football action from semi-finals of the FIFA World Futsal Championships 52929
2.00 FOOTBALL: UEFA CUP Action from the group stage of the UEFA Cup 71067
3.30 LIVE BOBSLEIGH Live action from the World Cup in Altenberg, Germany, with the first run in the two-woman bob 54777
4.30 FOOTBALL: TOP 24 CLUBS Show which counts down the top 24 football clubs in Europe, based on the season's results 6154
5.00 LIVE BOBSLEIGH The second run in the two-woman bob 8951
6.00 LIVE SKIING The Men's Downhill World Cup event at Beaver Creek, United States 90999
7.30 LIVE SKIING The Women's Audi Downhill World Cup event at Lake Louise, Canada 92680
9.00 BOWLS Coverage of the final of the 2004 Scottish Masters from Perth 76135
10.00 FOOTBALL: TOP 24 CLUBS 77425
10.30 YOZ XTREME Extreme sports 53845
11.00 BRITISH EUROSPORT NEWS Report 160628
11.15 LG ACTION SPORTS 290512
12.15 BRITISH EUROSPORT NEWS Report 5066075
12.30 CLOSE

MUTV

Including at 6.00 Countdown 2 Kick-Off 7.30 Champions League Classic 8.00 News 8.30 Premier Classic 10.00 News 10.30 Barney And Redford: Re United 11.00 Countdown 2 Kick-Off 12.30 Teleshopping 1.30 Close

EXTREME

Including at 6.25 Goldie Lookin' Chains: Guns Don't Kill People, Rappers Do 6.30 Gen/lex 7.00 Living Proof 7.30 Contrast 8.00 Manifesto 9.00 Legends Of The Extreme 10.00 High Octane 10.30 Wrath Child 11.00-12.00 Mike V's Greatest Hits



Charlie Catchpole

...on last night's telly

THE Dobson clan from Nottingham scrapped together half a million pounds to buy a vast castle in the Scottish Highlands.

Their attempts to convert the crumbling pile into B&B accommodation, without freezing to death or going mad and strangling each other, look certain to make **THE DOBSONS OF DUNCRAIG** (BBC1) compulsive viewing.

Duncraig has 80 rooms, its own railway station, a chapel, two islands and 37 acres of seashore. It also has a great many holes in the roof, having stood empty for 15 years.

If doesn't have any central heating or hot running water.

The Dobsons, all 17 of them

(including seven grandchildren under the age of eight), are an optimistic bunch.

They're rubbing along together remarkably well considering that it's January, five months since they moved in, and four of the five family groups still have no hot water on tap.

Whirlwind

"Everybody really cares about each other, and that's what keeps us going," said the permanently smiling Sam, eldest son of head of the family, Alan Dobson, and his wife Sybil. The one to watch is Sam's wife Perlin, described by her mother-in-law as "a whirlwind". A black woman who married into an all-white family

down south, Perlin is aware that she now stands out even more in a society where black faces are rarer than English accents on Scottish television. For the last 10 years, she and Sam had made a tidy sum by buying and selling houses in Nottingham.

"My purpose in life is to make money," said Perlin. I wouldn't have thought she believed in ghosts, but the programme's narrator said Perlin suspected there were "dark forces" in the house dividing the family.

Sam had bought cigars to offer visitors when they arrived. But as this prospect was already looking as distant as the mist-shrouded hills, he'd started puffing them himself.

titter telly

DISNEY

6.00 The Little Mermaid
6.25 Aladdin 6.50 House Of Mouse 7.15 Lizzie McGuire 7.35 That's So Raven 8.25 Dave The Barbarian 8.50 Kim Possible 9.15 Fillmore 9.40 Sabrina 10.05 The Proud Family 10.30 Art Attack 10.50 House Of Mouse 11.15 The Legend Of Tarzan: The Animated Series 11.40 Lilo And Stitch 12.05 Dave The Barbarian 12.30 Recess 12.55 Kim Possible 1.20 Lizzie McGuire 1.45 That's So Raven 2.10 Teen Angel 2.35 The Proud Family 3.00 Art Attack 3.20 Fillmore 3.45 Recess 4.30 Kim Possible 5.00 Lizzie McGuire 5.30 That's So Raven 6.00 Like Family 6.30 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 7.00 Film: The Ultimate Christmas Present (2000) Two girls find a machine that can control the weather, and cause havoc in Los Angeles when they create a wild snowstorm and have to call in Santa Claus to save the day. Comedy, starring Halle Berry and Spencer Breslin 8.20 Kim Possible 8.40 Lizzie McGuire 9.30 That's So Raven 10.00 8 Simple Rules For Dating My Teenage Daughter 10.30 Home Improvement 11.30 Boy Meets World 12.00 Close

PARAMOUNT

9.00 Kate And Allie 9.30 Cheers 10.00 Married With Children 10.30 3rd Rock From The Sun 11.00 Ned And Stacey 11.30 Dharma And Greg 12.00 M*A*S*H 12.30 M*A*S*H 1.00 3rd



TOP BATSMEN: Val and Chris, TCM, 9pm

Rock From The Sun 1.30 The Ellen Show 2.00 Ally McBeal 3.00 Ned And Stacey 3.30 Everybody Loves Raymond 4.00 Soap 4.30 Minder 5.30 Becker 6.00 Frasier 6.30 Roseanne 7.00 M*A*S*H 8.00 Seinfeld. Jerry and George are picked up for questioning by the police while searching for Kramer, who is suspected of being a notorious serial killer 8.30 Becker 9.00 That 70s Show 9.30 Frasier 10.30 Richard Pryor 12.25 Kate And Allie 12.55 Dharma And Greg 1.25 The Ellen Show 1.55 That 70s Show 2.25 Bill Plympton's Shorts 2.30 Cheers 3.00 Linc's 3.30 Shock Jock 4.00 Close

NICKELODEON

6.00 Arthur 6.30 Rugrats 7.00 Mr Bean 7.30 Fairly Odd Parents 8.30 Rugrats 9.00 As Told By Ginger 9.30 Arthur 10.30 CatDog 11.30 Rugrats 12.30 Mr Bean 1.00 Mr Bean 1.30 Arthur 2.00 Rugrats 2.30 Rugrats 3.00 As Told By Ginger 3.30 SpongeBob SquarePants 4.00 Fairly Odd Parents 4.30 All

Grown Up! 5.00 Drake And Josh 5.30 The Sleepover Club 6.00 What I Like About You 6.30 Sabrina, The Teenage Witch 7.00 Saved By The Bell 7.30 Fairly Odd Parents 8.00 Fairly Odd Parents 8.30 Kenan And Kel 9.00 SpongeBob SquarePants 9.30 Sister Sister 10.00 Close

TROUBLE

7.00 Moesha 7.25 Celebrity 7.30 70s Show 8.00 Two Guys 8.25 Clean 8.30 Wayans 9.00 Date My Sister 9.30 Deal 9.55 Jesse 10.20 Embarrassing Parents 10.50 Malibu CA 11.20 Wayans 11.50 High School 12.20 Fresh Prince 12.50 Clueless 1.15 Clean 1.20 70s Show 1.50 Malibu CA 2.20 Deal 2.45 Celebrity Extra 2.50 New York High 3.20 High School 3.50 Celebrity 4.00 Fresh Prince 4.30 Run 5.00 One 5.30 The Parkers 6.00 Grounded 6.30 Clueless 6.55 Clean 7.00 Moesha 7.30 Date 8.00 Malibu 8.30 Spider-Man 9.00 No Pain No Gain 9.30 Celebrity 9.35 The Parkers 10.05 One 10.35 Run 11.05 Paradise Hotel 12.00 Grounded 12.30 Jesse 12.55 Celebrity 1.00 Close

TCM

5.00 Hot Millions (1968)
 7.00 The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight (1971)
 9.00 Batman Forever (1995) Adventure, starring Val Kilmer and Chris O'Donnell 11.20 Wise Guys (1986) Black comedy, starring Danny DeVito 1.00 The Road Builder (1971) 2.40 Teleshopping 2.55-5.00 The Champ (1979)

Radio

Radio 1 (FM: 97.6-99.8MHz) 7.00 Chris Moyles. 10.00 Jo Whiley. 12.45 Newsbeat. 1.00 Colin And Edith. 4.00 Vernon. 6.00 Pete Tong. 9.00 Westwood. 11.00 Reggae Dancehall Nite. 1.00 Fabio And Grooverider. 3.00 1Xtra Presents.
Radio 2 (FM: 88-90.2MHz) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Vogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jeremy Vine. 2.00 Steve Wright. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 You Send Me - The Sam Cooke Story. 7.30 Andrea Bocelli. 9.15 One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest. 9.30 Listen To The Band. 10.00 Mariella Frostrup. 12.00 Bob Harris. 3.00 Janey Lee Grace.
Radio 4 (FM: 92.4-94.6MHz; LW: 198 kHz) 5.35 News. Shipping. 5.43 Prayer For The Day. 5.45 Farming Today. 6.00 Today. 9.00 News. Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Book Of The Week. (LW) 9.45 Act Of Worship. 10.00 News. Woman's Hour. (LW) 10.00 Rejoins FM. 11.00 News. Naming Nature. 11.30 Clare In The Community. 12.00 News. You And Yours. (LW) 12.00 News. Shipping. (LW) 12.04 Rejoins FM. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 World At One. 1.30 Feedback. 2.00 News. Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play. 3.00 News. Veg Talk. 3.30 Autumn Anthology. 3.45 Mind Reading. 4.00 News. Word Of Mouth. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM. (LW) 5.54 Shipping. (LW) 5.57 Weather. 6.00 News. (LW) 6.00 Rejoins FM. 6.30 The Now Show. 7.00 News. The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Love For Lydia. 8.00 News. Any Questions? 8.50 A View From... 9.00 News. The Friday Play. 9.59 Weather. 10.00 World Tonight. 10.45 Book At Bedtime. 11.00 News. Great Lives. 11.30 Today. 12.00 News. 12.30 Book Of The Week. 12.48 Shipping. 1.00 BBC World Service.
Radio 5 Live (MW: 909, 693kHz) 5.00 Morning Reports. 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Victoria Derbyshire. 12.00 News. 1.00 Simon Mayo. 4.00 News. 7.00 Sport On Five. 10.00 Brian Hayes. 1.00 Up All Night.
Virgin Radio 6.00 Pete And Geoff Breakfast Show. 10.00 The Top Ten At Ten With Russ Williams. 1.00 Neil Francis With Today's Best Music And Classic Tracks. 4.00 Kelly At Drivetime. 7.00 Suggs Virgin Party Classics. 10.00 The Late Show With Lisa Snowdon. 1.00 The Edge. 3.00 Steve Harris. **talkSPORT** 6.00 Alan Brazil And Graham Beecroft. 10.00 Mike Dickinson. 1.00 Hawksbee And Jacobs. 4.00 Kinghorn And Cascarino. 7.00 Kick Off. 10.00 Ian Collins. 1.00 Charlie Wolf.

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FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS, MATT AND DAVID GO MEGA

How Little Britain hit the big-time



CULT:
David as
Harvey, left, and
right as Mrs B



**BLINGING
THE CHANGES:**
Matt's new
character, Mr T

by VICKY LISSAMAN

A BALD bloke in a wheelchair, a delinquent single mum and a rubber-clad gay man from Wales...

If you don't know them all by now, then don't worry – you soon will!

This is the hotch-potch of hilarious characters which have turned cult comedy Little Britain into a mainstream hit.

From humble beginnings as an obscure sketch series on Radio 4, it has become the runaway success of 2004, so much so that it has bounced into a BBC1 prime-time slot, starting tonight.

Matt Lucas, 30, and comedy partner, David Walliams, 33, are the brains behind the array of oddball characters audiences have fallen in love with.

Fans

Classics like Vicky Pollard, the pink-tracksuited tearaway, and gay Daffyd Jones from Llandewi Brefi, are the reasons why catchphrases like "yeah, but no, but yeah, but no..." and "I'm the only gay in the village" can be heard ringing out of pubs and playgrounds across the country.

Even Princes William and Harry are big fans.

But before the explosion of Little Britain, Matt Lucas, a flabby white bloke who lost his hair at the age of six after a delayed reaction to being knocked down as a toddler, was best known as George Dawes from Shooting Stars.

He was the big baby who banged the drums, kept score and joined in with the constant mickey-taking of Ulrika-kaka.

"On Shooting Stars I used to get frustrated because I knew I was capable of so much more," admits Matt.

Now he has capitalised on his



CHAVIN' A LAUGH: Matt Lucas has found a whole army of fans as Vicky Pollard

rolly poly figure for the flamboyant and gloriously twisted Little Britain, and is happy to strip off to his birthday suit for comic effect when needed.

"Personally, I don't think we're exhibitionists as people, are we?" says Matt.

"I am," says David.

"I like doing it in character," says Matt. "It's very liberating."

David describes the series as "a comedy show with wigs and costumes – pure pantomime".

But Little Britain fans know

that the laughs run far deeper than gags like "he's behind you".

Every character is so carefully observed, from the terrifyingly patronising smile of power-crazed diet club demon Majorie Dawes, to wheelchairbound Andy, whose catchphrase is "Yeah, I know". In fact they're all destined to become all-time classics.

"Vicky Pollard is a great example," says David. "From the way girls of that age put on their eyeliner, and how they put their lip

liner on, we wanted the characters to be instantly recognisable and have an iconic feel about them."

Matt thinks the formula is much simpler than that.

"Making people laugh is what it's all about," says Matt. "It's simple!"

● Little Britain is on BBC1 tonight at 9.30pm and the Little Britain live tour starts on October 24, 2005. Call 0870 011 2626 for tickets.

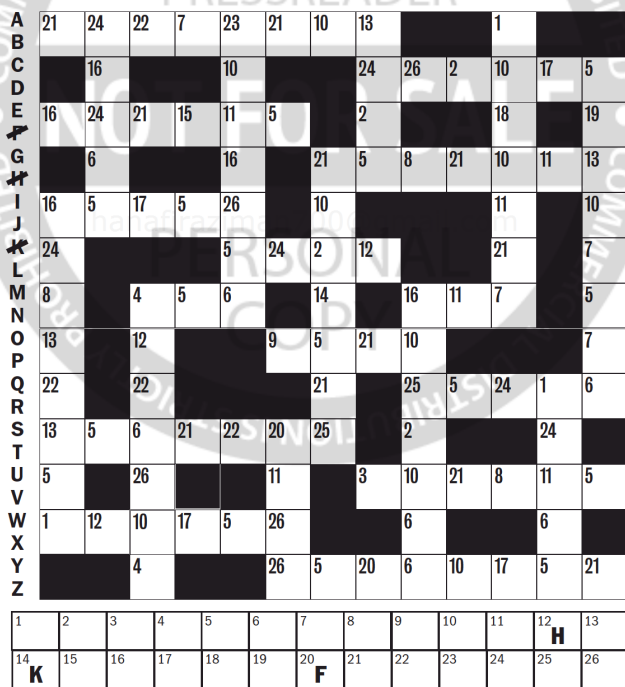


**HELLO
SAILOR:**
Matt as
Daffyd

DAILY
STAR

HEADBANGERS

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Three to one

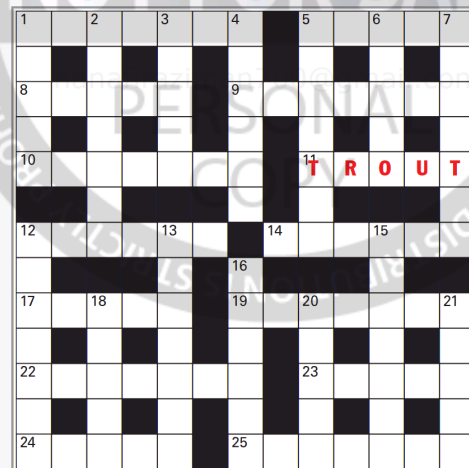
ACROSS

- 1 Parsnip • Portent • Sarcasm
- 5 Cocoa • Diver • Rural
- 8 Icing • Laird • Revue
- 9 Against • Scandal • Stammer
- 10 Declare • Extreme • Matinee
- 11 Spout • Thorn • Trout
- 12 Harass • Hedges • Hermit
- 14 Grated • Scored • Scurvy
- 17 Nomic • Sonic • Topaz
- 19 Offence • Organic • Overdid
- 22 Acrobat • Antenna • Bermuda
- 23 China • Cowed • Raced
- 24 Drape • Ensue • Grebe
- 25 Derange • Moonlit • Strayed

DOWN

- 1 Pried • Pulse • Scrum
- 2 Railcar • Riveted • Roister
- 3 Arena • Elgin • Nudge
- 4 Masked • Pushed • Traced
- 5 Classic • Drastic • Reactor
- 6 Cameo • Rondo • Video
- 7 Aerated • Latency • Related
- 12 Handbag • Hatband • Hostage
- 13 Exclude • Incense • Sizable
- 15 Radical • Runaway • Tension
- 16 Bottom • Coward • Morals
- 18 Merge • Notes • Parka
- 20 Error • Facer • Gecko
- 21 Chart • Dodge • Ended

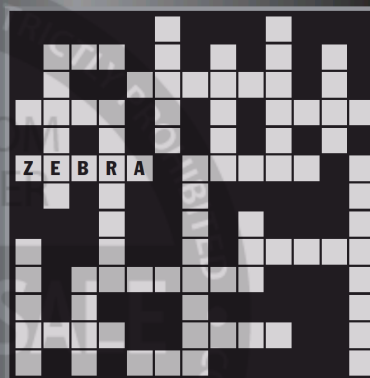
Each clue consists of three words, one of which is the correct answer. By comparing all the intersecting words, the full solution can be worked out. We have given you one answer to start you off.



LETTERWORDS

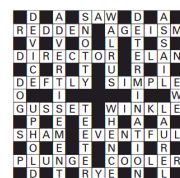
See how quickly you can fit all the animals listed below into the interlocking grid. We've placed one word as a starter.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 3 Letters | 6 Letters |
| CAT FOX | FERRET WEASEL |
| DOG | IGUANA |
| 4 Letters | 7 Letters |
| BEAR NEST | GORILLA |
| FROG SWAN | WARTHOG |
| MOLE WOLF | |
| 5 Letters | 7 Letters |
| EAGLE PANDA | ELEPHANT |
| LLAMA TIGER | SQUIRREL |
| OKAPI ZEBRA | |



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Straight Talk



So Complete

1 Moonraker 2 Octopussy 3 Goldfinger 4 Casino Royale 5 Live and Let Die 6 Licence to Kill.

Word Star

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DIFFICULTY: 7/10; **TARGET:** 24 minutes; **CLUE:** Remainder is not right under!

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: Across: Return, Molest, Vintage, Prick, Coin, Quiet, Jaunt, Bone, Orris, Natural, Modify, Wizard. Down: Crevice, Dogma, Utensil, Pride (clue), Array, Falsity, Repugnant, Complex, Staid, Merit, Doormat, Stoke, Ceilidh.

EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0905 072 3264 (Hear up to six extra letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard)

● Alternatively text DSALPHA to 83426 and we will text the six extra letter clues direct to your mobile. ● Texts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate.

FULL SOLUTION: 0905 072 3265

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Two-way Teaser

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CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 3 It's the quickest way round, of course (3,6)
- 7 Layer round a belt (5)
- 8 Hold-up restricts the Spanish in time (5)
- 9 I shout loudly, you'll hear, for dessert (3-5)
- 10 Sort of duty on which you put your foot down? (5)
- 13 Fire, mask or ring (3)
- 15 A cream concoction for a picture-taker (6)
- 16 No port should be agitated quickly (6)
- 17 It's shelled by one after exercises (3)
- 19 It's a giggle to have the last one (5)
- 23 Sport card used in wood, say (4-4)
- 24 Old queen holds right to wed (5)
- 25 It's the same for a peer (5)
- 26 Can it be made bigger to lie on? (9)

DOWN

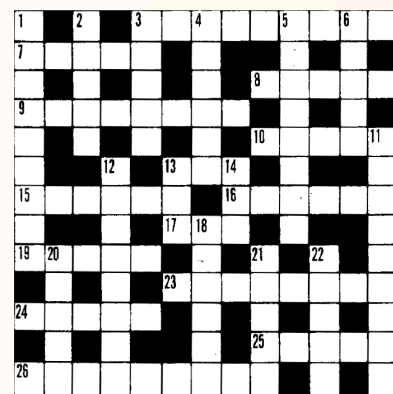
- 1 I clip a lot censoring description of Westminster (9)
- 2 Two-wheeled transport revealed low spirits (5)
- 3 Receive training having left to have a job (5)
- 4 Hat for the country (6)
- 5 Something made on it with race being run (8)
- 6 In this there'll be genuine head of monarchy (5)
- 11 It shows the cost of having the right connections (5,4)
- 12 Mix-up for a superior breakfast? (8)
- 13 Part of exploring a planet in space (3)
- 14 An afterthought makes this spring up (3)
- 18 When excited one hug is sufficient (6)
- 20 Dad's put up paintings in different places (5)
- 21 Later fat develops with little hesitation! (5)
- 22 Does it hold a record number of stamps? (5)
- 3 Fastest time for circuit of track (3,6)
- 7 Bracing air (5)
- 8 To defer (5)
- 9 Frozen dessert (3-5)
- 10 Impress with a seal (5)
- 13 Fossil fuel (3)
- 15 Piece of TV studio equipment (6)
- 16 At once, promptly (6)
- 17 A vegetable (3)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: ACROSS – 1 Sloppy joe, 7 Lapel, 9 Valuable, 11 Champ, 12 Frantic, 14 Here, 15 Rim, 17 Fad, 18 Chew, 20 Develop, 23 Lease, 24 Flippancy, 26 Corgi, 27 Take stock. DOWN – 2 Lever, 3 Pylon, 4 Job, 5 Elected, 6 Slipped up, 8 Peaceful, 10 Avid, 12 Fireplace, 13 Armchair, 16 Benefit, 19 Seep, 21 Exact, 22 Optic, 25 ilk.

QUICK CLUES

- 19 Guffaw (5)
- 23 Association for course members (4,4)
- 24 Wed (5)
- 25 Evenly balanced (5)
- 26 Device for carrying injured person (9)
- 1 To do with government affairs (9)
- 2 Light motorcycle (5)
- 3 Commit to memory (5)
- 4 Man's straw hat (6)
- 5 The production of the universe (8)
- 6 Kingdom (5)
- 11 GPO's account for calls (5,4)
- 12 Breakfast dish of rice (8)
- 13 A break in a wall (3)
- 14 Mineral spring resort (3)
- 18 Sufficient (6)
- 20 In pieces (5)
- 21 Subsequently (5)
- 22 Book for photographs (5)

Two sets of clues, but the answers are the same
ANSWERS TOMORROW



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| 10000 | 223.60 | 170.10 | 144.79 | 121.49 | 111.70 | 107.01 |
| 12500 | 279.50 | 212.63 | 180.99 | 151.86 | 139.63 | 133.76 |
| 15000 | 335.40 | 255.15 | 217.19 | 182.23 | 167.55 | 160.52 |
| 17500 | 391.30 | 297.68 | 253.38 | 212.61 | 195.48 | 187.28 |
| 20000 | 447.20 | 340.02 | 289.58 | 242.98 | 223.40 | 214.02 |
| 22500 | 503.10 | 382.76 | 325.78 | 273.35 | 251.33 | 240.77 |
| 25000 | 559.00 | 425.25 | 361.98 | 303.73 | 279.25 | 267.53 |
| 27500 | 614.90 | 467.78 | 398.17 | 334.10 | 307.18 | 294.28 |
| 30000 | 670.80 | 510.30 | 434.37 | 364.47 | 335.10 | 321.03 |
| 32500 | 726.70 | 552.83 | 470.57 | 394.84 | 363.03 | 347.78 |
| 35000 | 782.60 | 595.35 | 506.77 | 425.22 | 390.95 | 374.54 |
| 40000 | 894.40 | 680.40 | 579.16 | 485.96 | 446.80 | 428.04 |
| 50000 | 1118.00 | 850.50 | 723.95 | 607.45 | 558.50 | 535.05 |
| 75000 | 1677.00 | 1275.75 | 1085.93 | 911.18 | 837.75 | 802.58 |

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A SECRETARY spots that her boss has left his flies undone and tells him: "Your garage door is open!"
The boss boasts: "So did you see my Ferrari?"

The secretary says: "No, just an old scooter with two punctured tyres."

F. KHAN, Halifax.
A BLONDE rushes into a police station and tells the desk sergeant that her car has just been stolen.

The sergeant says: "Did you get a good look at the thief?"
The blonde replies: "No, but I got his number."

Mrs A. HALSALL, Weymouth, Dorset.
Jokes by text...
THE man who wrote The Hokey Cokey died at the age of 93. The funeral ended in a fiasco when the undertakers couldn't get him in the coffin.

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They put his left leg in, then all the trouble started.

DEREK BRIEN
BLOKE meets a vicar while out walking. Puzzled, he asked the vicar why he had his shirt on back to front.

The vicar said: "Because, my son, I am a father." Still confused, the bloke said: "But I am also a father, and I don't wear MY shirt backwards."

Vicar said: "But, my son, I am father to thousands." The bloke replied: "In that case you should wear your underwear backwards." **KEITH SPARK, Skegness, Lincs.**

£10 LETTER

EVERY year we hear of officials trying to take Christ out of Christmas.

They ban nativity scenes or carols, claiming these offend other religions.

Yet I never hear of anyone here trying to ban or change other religions' festivals.

I would like to ask all Daily Star readers to challenge these killjoys. Otherwise Christmas will simply be reduced to Santa and an excuse for a booze-up.

KEN STEELE, Bradford.
SANTA has the right idea for avoiding London's congestion charge - flying over the city.

But with the charge going up to £8, don't tell him where Mayor Ken Livingstone lives - he's got enough dosh to buy his own presents.

CHRIS BOSWELL, Oxford.

IS there something wrong with me? I just can't see any fun in ITV's I'm

LETTERS EMAILS

THERE'S a tennor for the best letter each day, and a fiver for every one we print. Drop us a line at Readers' Letters, Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6EN.
You can also fax us on 0870 7853 or email: Star.Letters@dailystar.co.uk

A Celebrity. I've tried watching it, but can't see the attraction in a bunch of idiots sitting around in the jungle.

Mrs JOAN FRENCH, Great Clacton, Essex.

WELL done, Daily Star, for your Christmas telly guide. It had more pages than those of other so-called newspapers, was easier to read and had features on everything anyone would want to watch. As if that wasn't enough, it had a photo of Emmerdale's Amy Nuttall on the cover. What a Christmas cracker!

PETER WREN, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

TEXT MANIACS TEXT DSTAR TO 61616



Text DSTAR followed by a space, then your name and comment, and send to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your normal mobile operator cost.

as u tuck in2 ur xmas turkey, dont 4get the sad, lonely & miserable spare a thought 4 eastenders fans. **B. HUMBUG**

2 all soap fans - am i the only 1 sick & tired of soaps putting disasters on the TV every Christmas? **Lee S Shaw**

i hope every1 enjoyed michelle ryan aka zoe slater's big bangers bouncin their way out the queen vic. truly a thing of beauty. **porno ste b.P.C.L.**

Well done Corrie 4 ur latest gay character. hes enough 2 turn me str8! Bring back Todd! **DAN**

sick of hearing about spencer "gay slurs". is it that bad 2 b gay? some of the best looking men are gay. **Lisa**

Could i have spencers £60k job? People could make me gay till the cows come home! **S.L.J. Port Talbot**

so wot sophie anderton got small boobs. with a stunnin face like that she dont need em. big boobs aint b all n end all u no. jay

Speaking as someone who never liked sophie i admit im a hypocrite. Shes a total babe. Please vote to keep her in. **Hunter, Newcastle**

ANY1 ELSE THINK SOPHIE'S MOUTH TURNS UPSIDE DOWN WHEN SHE SPEAKS? GURNER IF EVA I SAW1. **JAYDE, SURREY.**

Each X factor judge has 1 finalist. Fortunate? Fix more like. Y did 2 wiv least votes go 2 judges? So that public didnt leave judge wiv no acts. **Danny**

Good to see in OK mag that stuart and michelle have moved in together. what a good couple they make. all the best to them both. **Tina, soton**

great firemen pics. D star tops with gay guys too. how bout some policemen? **micky marshall, bermondsey**



How about a pic to remind us of Kate Garraway during her absence from GMTV? **NED**

just read np's text and agree i feel 4 u dude. i too am gay but live with a girl to cover up. now im coming out cos im so angry. **wayne ralphs rosendale**
So fatboy slim woke seein a horses head on pillow and it answered when he called it zoe! **Tish P. Liverpool**

Have to agree with SCREWY. band aid's remake is just so tedious. and no, i aint buyin it! **gary, telford**

stuff band aid charity, begins at home. give to children in need. **wes**
There's only one King. The Rt Hon Robert Nesta Marley O.M. Bow down at his feet! **Bunny**

just seen darkness - rock ROCKS, rap CRAP r & b Rubbish & B*ll*cks. **DAVE C**

So foreigners don't like being in our jails? Tough. Don't come here and break our laws. **Dave, Norwich**

2 appalling cases of uninsured hit n run drivers getting away virtually scot free - what the hell is the justice system playin at? **Antony**

to codhdad craig, barnsley is the best town eva! **DAN**

Country foxes ARE NOT VERMIN! They are natural pest control on the increase because of all the tame pheasants you hunters set free. Sportsmen shoot clays not chickens! **1 Man CCA**

Wot ever beame ov bob carrolges n spit the dog? **chav donny**

Micky, the witch from chorlton n the wheelies was fenella! **K8e, Kendal**
to dude the toad in bagpuss was Gabriel. **Chris**

THE FROG IN BOD WAS ALBERTO! STEVE THE RED

all old kids shows r still on nick jr channel after 8pm. **BAMBI**

any1 know the secret spies they put in kfc? **matt slopehead, blackpool**

Green fruit pastilles r minig black ones r the beez kiez. **NPW**
Lord Lucan get lost this is my hiding place! **Elvis**
all i want for xmas is my name in the star. **mike mee**

Justin Toper



The STAR-gazer who knows your future

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: There will be more magic this year than at any other time you have known.
CELEBRATING TODAY: Rocker Ozzy Osbourne, right, 56; singer Daniel Bedingfield, 25; actress Daryl Hannah, 44.



Aries (Mar 21-Apr 20)

COLLEAGUES are likely to throw something your way and you may end up paying for it. Either way, you already seem to have made plans for yourself and also for someone who is over the moon that you have returned to them. To see why you should be delighted by what you hear, call...

To receive daily texts send DSARI to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (01) ***

Taurus (Apr 21-May 21)

AT first glance it seems that a partner or another person is uncertain of your loyalty. They may even throw a wobbly. But an agreement should be reached over the next day or so. To see why you may as well spend because you are guaranteed good value, call...

To receive daily texts send DSTAU to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (02) ***

Gemini (May 22-June 22)

THERE could be some minor delays or irritations to deal with. But what is happening elsewhere should be welcoming, even if for some reason you and someone happen to be separated. Maybe it's better that way. To see why you should stop at nothing to be with certain people, call...

To receive daily texts send DSGEM to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (03) ***

Cancer (June 23-July 23)

BOTH loved ones and colleagues may make budgeting a tricky thing. Not that they should really get in the way if you are thinking of making some positive changes, or if you simply want to enjoy life more. To see why your long-term future is assured, call...

To receive daily texts send DSCAN to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (04) ***

Leo (July 24-Aug 23)

YOU may not be perfectly in tune with yourself or be able to reach others emotionally. To be honest, partners or loved ones are so mixed up at the moment, they are certain to change from one minute to the next. To see why this should be the most exhilarating time of the year, call...

To receive daily texts send DSLEO to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (05) ***

Virgo (Aug 24-Sep 23)

THERE may be a few delays. There is, however, no reason not to complete what you had started working on as not a lot of input is required. Yet you may have to take on more than you bargained for this weekend. To see why home is where the heart is, call...

To receive daily texts send DSVIR to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (06) ***

Libra (Sep 24-Oct 23)

YOU may be under pressure to give others what they want. But you mustn't feel intimidated, even if emotions run high today. Chances are that you will let your real personality shine through in a different environment. To see why you may enjoy this most unusual set-up, call...

To receive daily texts send DSLIB to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (07) ***

Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)

VENUS in Scorpio is at odds with Neptune, and it might strike you as strange that others are so hesitant. This is a different approach to the one you expected, especially if you'd hoped to seal a deal. To see why you should have the last word in negotiations, call...

To receive daily texts send DSSCO to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (08) ***

Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU may have trouble unravelling a situation that is baffling you. But there should be many diversions between now and the weekend. Not only that, but a series of amazing aspects should enable you to experience lots of emotions. To see why a plot is not too difficult to solve, call...

To receive daily texts send DSSAG to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (09) ***

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 20)

IT'S a day when friends or colleagues are vague. Once the weekend begins certain loose ends will probably be tied up, and other people will make you their number one priority. To see why you won't be agonising over a decision for much longer, call...

To receive daily texts send DSCAP to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (10) ***

Aquarius (Jan 21-Feb 19)

YOU may be wrestling with a personal or professional question. Chances are that before you leave for the weekend, someone will catch you on your way. This may be the knight in shining armour you've been waiting for. To find out more about a best friend's announcement, call...

To receive daily texts send DSAQU to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (11) ***

Pisces (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOU may have a few loose ends to tie up and could end up making more work for yourself. In any event, you would be better off keeping a low profile now, even if you decide to take off again after a showdown. To see why you should receive some good news, call...

To receive daily texts send DSPIS to 63333 **0905 072 0099 (12) ***

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IMAGE RATING

HERE'S how the Audi A3 Sportback 3.2 quattro Sport fares image-wise.

REAR MIRROR MONSTER: Small car that looks huge and scary, thanks to deep radiator grille and huge triple-bulb headlights.

BACKSIDE BEAUTY: Twin exhaust and 3.2-litre badge give the game away. Otherwise a nice little family car.

PLAYTIME PLEASER: Twin-zone climate control, trip computer, four electric windows, heated, electric, mirrors, auto wipers and headlights, CD-stereo.

NAUGHTY NIGGLES: Big heavy doors that need to be heaved open, then smash back into your face.

TASTY TOUCHES: Fold-out rear arm-rest with storage space and pop-out cup-holders.

FAST OR LAST: Stunningly quick, but you might get fed-up with continually having to prove it.

WONGA WONDER: Basic car is expensive enough, but cost of extras is ludicrous. Poor value.

WOULD AN ESSEX GIRL LIKE IT? Tracey would be quite happy with a basic A3. After all, it's the pose that counts for a car like this, not the speed.

MOTOR MOUTH



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ROWDY AUDI

LET'S all say "aah" to the sweet little Audi A3.

Here's a car that's lusted after by ... women.

And especially posh women who want to make a statement: "Look at me. I'm bitcher (richer) than you."

This car's just that bit more upmarket than a Golf, you know. And for £16,000 you can have a swish 1.6-litre that does a whole 114mph and 0-62mph in 13.2 secs, or an afternoon, or something.

Well, who cares about speed when really it's mummy's run-about. And her daughter's taxi.

Would Motormouth want one? No Motormouth bloody wouldn't. The A3 recently underwent something of a make-over, so I rang Audi to order one up.

Funnily, I didn't tell them which model I wanted, but somebody there obviously knows me.

When it landed on my world famous drive I did notice it said "quattro" on the front, but so many

Audis are four-wheel-drive these days I didn't think much about it. I did spot the new, deep, aggressive, radiator grille - but at that stage I hadn't realised that it's a lot stiffer under the skin, to make this a far sharper machine.

If I'd wandered round the back I'd definitely have spotted the big twin chrome exhaust, though I doubt I'd have noticed the discreet little 3.2-litre badge.

Swish

So there's Motormouth, idle as ever, wondering whether he can actually be bothered to drive the A3.

I got in, looked at its very swish dashboard, boosted-up by a (gulp) £2,530 sat-nav screen (think of a number; double it for Audi), noticed it was automatic (boring), then immediately jumped back into my magnificent long-wheel-base Jaguar Sovereign, which went like a silent missile.

Next day some horrible git from Jag took the Sovereign away, and I

was left with the ladies' car, so I had to drive it. Surprisingly, the golf trolley and the clubs fitted into the new and bigger boot, because the A3's also got a bit longer, by three-and-a-half inches.

For a small car it's surprisingly spacious, especially at the back, where there's also more leg-room.

Five minutes later I hit a clear stretch of road, and I floored it ... oh my God, what the hell is this?

The A3 tore away like a nutter. It's blisteringly quick.

I found myself hurtling past other cars, flashing past one after another as the speed shot through the 100mph mark.

It relentlessly tore up to 120mph, and all in reasonable silence, as the automatic box seamlessly flicked through six forward gears.

Well, even in no-speed-limit Germany, where I quite obviously wasn't, I mean was, the roads aren't straight for ever. And the twisty stuff was fast approaching.

But what the hell had Audi given

me? I stopped and had a look. So rather than "aah," say "Aargh" to the wild Audi A3 Sportback quattro, with just the 245 horses under the bonnet, 0-62mph in 6.4secs and a top speed limited to 155mph.

It's fantastic, but it's also very, very expensive.

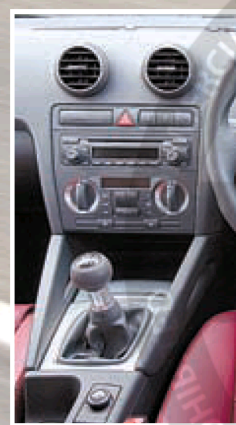
Audi had added a few bits 'n' pieces to my car. The so-called auto box turned out to be their latest toy - the Dynamic Shift Gearbox (DSG).

Gear

It's just the £1,400, and it works by pre-selecting the next gear you need - doesn't ask me how it knows, it just does, OK? - so gearchanges are instantaneous.

Then there were leather sports seats (£670), dazzling blue Xenon headlights (£590), a six-disc CD autochanger (£320), 17-inch alloys (£710) and a hideous mobile phone set-up which appeared to be glued to the dash and cost a mere £385.

Add that to some other extras,





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FACTFILE

A3 Sportback 3.2 quattro.
PRICE (on the road):
£24,625. (range from
£16,010).

ENGINE: 3,189cc, 24-valve
V6, iron block, alloy head,
with variable valve timing
(245bhp, 237lb torque).

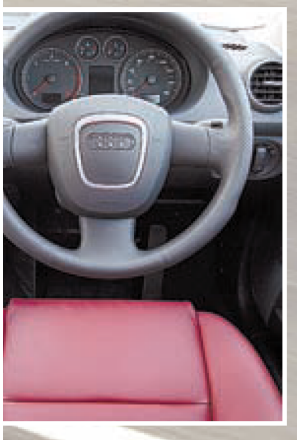
TOP SPEED: 155mph (lim-
ited); 0-62mph: 6.4secs.

MPG: Urban: 20.3;
extra urban: 37.1;
combined:
28.2.

CO₂:
240g/km.

**INS
GROUP:**
18.

HOOLIGAN:
New 3.2-litre
A3 Sportback is
blisteringly quick



like a front centre armrest, which costs £95 but surely should be standard, and this £24,625 car was suddenly weighing in at ... wait for this ... £32,270.

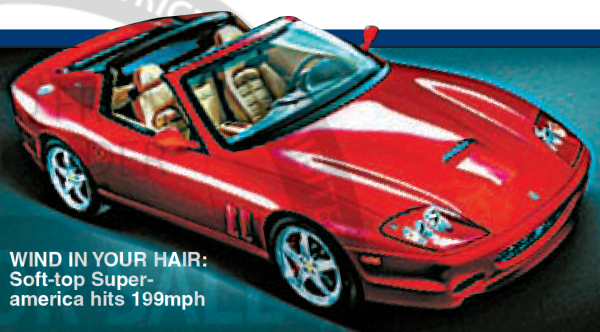
Anyway, let's get into that twisty stuff, where this particular A3 handles like it's glued to the road. The steering is well-weighted, but a little vague, which makes it a bit scary to push it to the limit, but even so it's quite fast enough.

You change gear by flicking the gear-stick backwards and for-
wards, or by using the paddles
behind the steering wheel (£160
extra), while a display in front of
you, in the middle of the speedo,
tells you what gear you're in.

So there you have it. Fantastic
car, but at a fantastic price, even if
you don't get all the extras.

I loved it, but it left me wonder-
ing who would be prepared to pay
this kind of money for what is,
essentially, a luxury posh mum's
rally-car?

Not me, that's for sure.



WIND IN YOUR HAIR:
Soft-top Super-
america hits 199mph

Super car, shame about the name

I'VE no doubt that, just like me, most of you were planning to spend £156,700 on your own personal present to yourself this Christmas ... a Ferrari 575 Maranello.

In fact I was very close to signing the cheque when a pal from Ferrari told me about this new and even better Maranello, which comes to Britain in right-hand-drive in the summer. Actually, it's not actually called Maranello, even though it's based on one. Instead, this electric, folding glass roof version has one of the daftest names of all time. So let me introduce the Ferrari Superamerica - designed by Italian firm Pininfarina, built in Italy by Ferrari.

First

Because of the extra weight, the standard Maranello's 5.75-litre V12 has been boosted from 508 to 540bhp, yet even so, top speed slumps from 202mph to a pedestrian 199mph, but 0-62mph remains the same at 4.1 secs.

The Superamerica is the first car in the world to have a folding roof which actually changes colour.

An Italian system called Revocromico (electrochromic

glass) allows the driver to control the level of light entering the cockpit. Five tint levels allow the glass to go from dark to light in a minute. Meanwhile, the Fioravanti-patented Italian electric roof folds flat in just 10 seconds.

Buyers can choose an F1-style flick-switch gearbox, or manual, while a strongly-advised handling package, includes carbon ceramic brakes.

So that leaves the price. At £180,000 it's only £23,300 more than the standard car, so I'll wait until summer and get one then.



HYUNDAI are enjoying a record time for car sales, and a new version of the Santa Fe (above) won't do them any harm either. It's got a whole new look, along with £2,250 worth of extra kit for a price rise of just £1,000. All cars now come with cruise control, heated door mirrors and heated front seats, while 2.7-litre V6s also get reversing sensors and an auto-dimming rear view mirror. There's also a new front grille, new tailgate, light clusters and bumper, and a far smarter silver-trimmed instrument panel. Choose from just two versions, a £17,995 2.0-litre diesel or £18,995 for the V6, both with a five-year, unlimited mileage warranty. The new Santa ... just in time for Christmas.

SMALLER cars are getting safer, reveal the latest Euro NCAP tests. The Renault Modus became the first supermini to get a five-star rating for occupant protection, while the Citroën C4 and Seat Altea all performed well. Here are the results for occupant protection - Superminis: Renault Modus (5 Stars); Hyundai Getz (4); Fiat Panda (3); Kia Picanto (3). Small family: Citroën C4 (5); Ford Focus (5); BMW 1 Series (5); Small MPV: Seat Altea (5). Edmund King, executive director of the RAC Foundation, said: "Occupants of smaller vehicles are now demanding optimum safety standards. This is not merely a right reserved for those who can afford executive vehicles."

GIVE US A STEER

Q I'M thinking of buying a car from internet auction site Ebay. Are there any tips that you can give me so I don't end up with something I don't want?

A It's as easy to get caught up in an online bidding war, as it is a real one. Don't bid on the first you see, but instead use the site's search facility to compare cars and check what your choice of car is really worth with a price guide or you could end up paying too much.

You'll also need to factor in the cost of picking it up and how much any replacement parts will cost. Ask lots of questions and ask the seller to e-mail extra pictures if you need them.

Q My 1993 VW Golf 1.8 Cabriolet doesn't have an immobiliser or alarm. What can I do to protect it?

A A Thatcham category one alarm/immobiliser is the best system you can buy, but expensive at around £280.

However, you can balance this against the discounted premium you will then receive from your insurer.

For this age of car, though, it's probably more economical to have a Thatcham Category 2 immobiliser fitted, which is still highly protective.

It will cost you around £100 and you should still make a saving on your insurance.

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MOTOR MOUTH

EXTRA

Edited by
GEORGE FOWLERPrices that
you'll Dai for

IF you own one of these – and that's more than 16,000 people – then now is the time to bring it back to its original sparkling condition.

Why? Because makers Daihatsu have slashed parts prices of farmers' favourite the Fourtrak by an average 45 per cent for vehicles made between 1993 and 2002. And

searching through the list of price cuts there are some real bargains to be

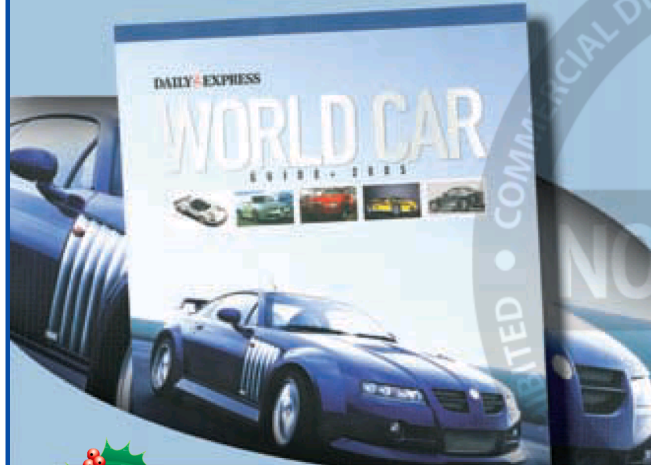
had. For instance, a £295.99 brake master cylinder is now on offer at £86.85; front shock absorbers are down from £52.65 to

£23.66 and a new clutch disc will set you back

£51.92 instead of £94.32. Daihatsu have made the cuts

in a bid to stop owners using cheap alternative parts. All items carry a three year/60,000 mile warranty.

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There's no need to be a loo-ser!



WEE MARVEL: Tiny toilet

IS there anything worse than being stuck in a traffic jam when you're bursting to go to the loo?

Admit it, it's happened to all of us, and it's agony.

Yet sadly, once the road opens up and you get a clear run, it's no good going flat out for the nearest hotel or pub, because if you're caught speeding the cops won't believe you.

Rushing for the toilet is an excuse that's just too common.

Screen

Well, now relief is on the way in the shape of the world's smallest toilet.

And don't worry, because you won't end up sat there looking like an idiot while the world watches you doing what comes naturally, because it even puts a protective screen around you.

Called the Indipod, this British invention has just gone on sale on the internet at £295 – and for any businesses interested in buying one, the company says: "If you would like a

■By GEORGE FOWLER

personal demonstration we will park outside your office and let you use the Indipod yourself!"

Despite its tiny size, the Indipod is best suited to cars with a big hatchback boot, or folding rear seats.

When you're caught out, you take the Indipod out of its bag, and plug it into the car's electric socket.

This starts a fan in the base unit which inflates a huge bubble screen which expands to the windows and roof, giving users total privacy.

There's also a fan to provide ventilation and, what the makers call "odour control".

When you've finished, the toilet is flushed into a separate tank, which can be emptied later.

Advance

The Indipod is designed, developed and manufactured by British firm DayCar Ltd, of Bromsgrove, Worcs.

Technical director Dr James Shippen, a former university lecturer

in mechanical engineering, claimed: "This is the most significant advance in car accessories since the spare wheel. It has the power to change for the better the way people live their lives."

Businessman Jeff Anderson said: "My work takes me all over the country and I'm on the road all day."

"I've got a medical condition which means that when I need to go, I've got to go. The Indipod is great."

For more details, visit: www.indipod.com

EVERY year 1,000 pedestrians and cyclists are killed in Britain after being hit by a car, landing on the bonnet, which then gets crushed into the top of the engine. They may as well have fallen head-first on to the pavement. Now Honda have developed a bonnet which automatically pops open in the event of such an accident, thanks to sensors on the front bumper. The extra space created causes an air-cushion which stops victims' heads from hitting the engine. It's expected to save people from serious injury in 10 per cent of accidents.

BUOYED by news of their forthcoming Chinese venture, MG Rover have opened four showrooms in Berlin, taking the total of new dealers in European markets to 60 in 2004, with another 100 due in 2005. The company now has 1,000 outlets in Europe and 1,250 worldwide. MG Rover has changed more than half its dealer network since its split with BMW four years ago. Worldwide sales director Rod Ramsay said: "People are attracted by our historic customer base, which is large and brings valuable income from servicing and repairs."

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51 Vauxhall Astra Club

- 3 Door
- PAS
- Automatic
- Electric windows




Car shown for illustration purposes only

£26.14 per week
0% APR
Cash price £6895
Deposit £99
£26.14 over 260 weeks

51 Renault Laguna Expression dCi

- 5 Door
- Silver
- Alloys
- PAS




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£24.60 per week
0% APR
Cash price £6495
Deposit £99
£24.60 over 260 weeks

52 Vauxhall Corsa SXi

- 3 Door
- PAS
- Alloys
- Electric windows
- Immobiliser




Car shown for illustration purposes only

£15.75 per week
0% APR
Cash price £4195
Deposit £99
£15.75 over 260 weeks

52 Ford Ka

- 3 Door
- PAS
- HDS Radio
- Immobiliser



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| Fiat OVER 300 In Stock | Mg OVER 95 In Stock | Suzuki OVER 40 In Stock |
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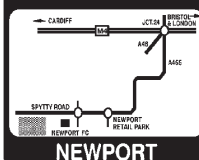
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WEST MIDLANDS

It's the business

The way management treats staff is exactly how staff will treat customers – Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton

Movers & groovers

BILLIONAIRE Bhs owner Philip Green was crowned Entrepreneur of the CBI/Real Growing Business Awards last night.

It was the top prize of nine awards handed out and was decided by a public vote of entrepreneurs and business leaders.

"Green is the hottest entrepreneur in Britain right now. He has made selling clothing sexier than dot-coms ever were," said Adam Leyland, editor of Real Business magazine.

Chancellor Gordon Brown attended the event along with more than 600 UK entrepreneurs.

SHARES in Richard Branson's cosmetics business **Victory Corporation** plunged yesterday after it issued a profits alert.

The holding company for **Virgin Cosmetics** and **Virgin Ware** said sales had been poor in October and November, particularly at its **Cosmetics Direct** unit, where consultants sell Virgin make up and skincare products at Virgin Vie parties in customers homes.

INVESTORS can hope for a good end to the year as the "Santa Effect" takes hold of the market. Research by shares website **ADVFN** found the **FTSE** is usually lifted by the wave of yuletide cheer.

Sixteen Decembers out of the last 20 have seen the **FTSE** end up on the month.

CHRISTMAS may be the season of goodwill, but firms are warned that workplace fraud reaches peak over the festive period. Risk management consultants **Protiviti** calls it "Santa Fraud" and says the culprits take advantage of less vigilant managers and staff during the party season.

INTERNET firm **Tiscali** has launched **tiscali.tv** – selling pay per view TV, short films, sport and music videos – over broadband connections to their customers' PCs. The channel is streamed on Windows Media Player.

BT plans to launch a similar service next summer but will sell set top boxes, probably in a tie up with Freemove, so that its clips can be seen on television.

THE DEALER

WHO'S DEALING

OIL producer **Premier Oil** eased 1p to 540p despite operations director **Simon Lockett** increasing his stake. **Lockett** paid £19,600 for 3,500 shares at 560p to take his holding to 45,956 shares or 0.05%. **Premier** has been under pressure after disappointing news on a test well off Mauritania.

£209m Ebookers sold

ONLINE travel agent **Ebookers** was yesterday snapped up by giant US rival **Cendant** in a deal worth £209million.

The deal made £91m for the man who started it all in a booth at a London tube station.

Chief exec **Dinesh Dhamija**, who still owns 41% of **Ebookers**

after floating it in 1999, said: "The time is right to sell. I have proved everything I needed to prove."

He is already one of Britain's richest Asians after selling £20m worth of shares over the years.

The move by **Cendant**, which owns **Avis** rental cars and the **Ramada Hotel** franchise, is its

first in the UK, and is expected to lead to a round of takeovers in the European travel industry. **Cendant** will expand the company into short-haul flights.

Ebookers last month reported third quarter losses reduced to £2m from £3.2m after axing 360 jobs and closing high street shops.

HOT GOSSIP

MEDICINES-from-cannabis firm **GW Pharmaceuticals** fell 11.5p to 142p on suggestions UK approval for the oral spray **Sativex** could be held up by months. The government is thought to have asked for several issues to be clarified. **Sativex** has already been given the go-ahead in Canada.

Brown is upbeat

CITY'S VERDICT

CHANCELLOR Gordon Brown stuck to his upbeat forecasts for the economy.

But experts warned that his "wishful thinking" could trigger tax rises.

In his Pre-Budget Report yesterday, he ignored fears that the UK is heading for a sharp slowdown and refused to lower his predictions for economic growth.

Mr Brown said the economy was on track to grow by 3.25% this year and between 3% and 3.5% in 2005, despite a majority of City experts looking for 2.5% next year.

By sticking to the forecasts he made in his March Budget, he was criticised for not taking into account the effect of higher interest rates at home and the impact of high oil prices and the slump in the dollar.

Last month the **Bank of England** downgraded its growth projection for next year from 3% to 2.5%.

Weaker

Andrii Halushka, of the Centre for Economics and Business Research, described Mr Brown's estimates on growth and borrowing as "wishful thinking".

He said: "Mr Brown stuck by his forecast despite clear indications that the fastest part of the post-Iraq war upswing is now past and that growth will be dampened by weaker consumer and housing market confidence."

Mr Brown said Britain had enjoyed the longest period of uninterrupted growth in its industrial history.

He insisted he would not breach his golden rule of balancing borrowing and spending.

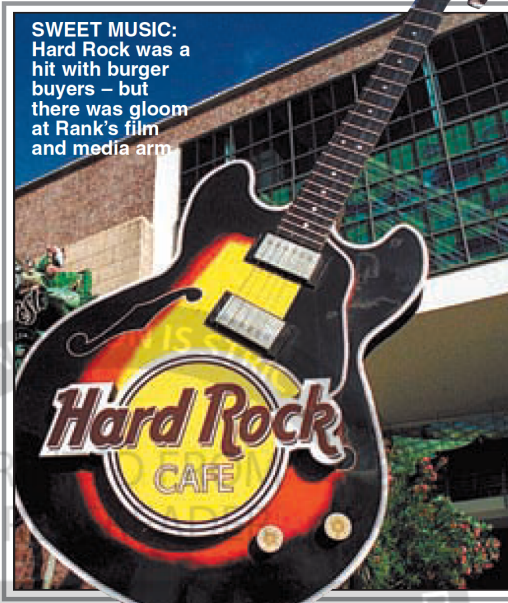
But the CBI warned the Chancellor's forecasts were

■ by TONY LEONARD

over-optimistic and would require spending cuts or tax increases after the next election.

And analysts at City bank **ABN Amro**, who expect growth to fall to 1.9% next year, said: "The Treasury appears to be ignoring all the signs that both the world economy and the UK economy are already slowing."

"After the election the Chancellor will have to decide whether to break the fiscal rules or raise taxes."



SWEET MUSIC: Hard Rock was a hit with burger buyers – but there was gloom at Rank's film and media arm

Rockers get tasty

A **BOUNCE** back at the **Hard Rock Cafe** helped **Rank Group** swallow any disappointment in the performance of its film and media division **Deluxe**.

The company, which also owns **Mecca Bingo**, **Blue Square** betting shops and a string of casinos, said food and drink like-for-like sales had continued to rise, following the trend in the first half of the year.

But sales of **Hard Rock** merchandise continued to fall.

"We are hoping it will bottom out eventually," said investor relations director **Peter Reynolds**.

Rank said plans to either sell, demerge or float the **Deluxe** division, which offers a range of services to film studios and produces DVDs and videos, were progressing and the company expected to unveil its plans for the business in February.

Hols firm is camping it up

HOLIDAYBREAK is to offer no-frills camping in areas served by budget airlines.

The specialist operator believes the idea will beef up its **Eurocamp** and **Keycamp** brands.

Chief executive **Richard Atkinson** said the holi-

days would be sold through a new website **ugogo.com**.

It will also feature airline timetables to let punters create their own holidays.

He said: "We are looking to drive sales in the off peak season. It's all

part of the trend away from packaged holidays."

The company issued a profits warning in April. **But Atkinson** said a revamp involving new management, cutting the number of holidays on offer and tweaking destinations, was working.

MAIL HIT AS AD SALES WOBBLE

DAILY Mail & General Trust, owner of the **Daily Mail** newspaper, warned yesterday that its ad sales are so uncertain that it cannot predict which way they will go in the year ahead.

Chairman **Viscount Rothermere** said: "Recent weeks have shown signs of slowing down" and added that the "uncertain advertising market" means "there is difficulty in forecasting the trend of advertising".

Finance director **Peter Williams** blamed a faltering economy and a slower housing market for hitting property and recruitment ads.

He also warned that the weak dollar could hit the group's exhibitions business and add to the rising cost of newsprint.

Meanwhile, the circulation of **DMGT's** major papers has been going down. **London Evening Standard** sales fell 6.6% from a year ago, while the **Daily Mail** fell 0.5% and the **Mail On Sunday** 0.25%.

And half the group's 24 weekly local papers saw circulation falls.

Operating profits edged up 5% to £181 million, while **DMGT's** debt stood at £780m in October.

FTSE100 SHARE INDEX ▲ Up 15.50 points (+0.33%) at 4751.20

| Company | Price | Change | High | Low |
|-----------------|-------|--------|------|------|
| 3i Grp. | 658xd | +7 | 686 | 528 |
| A.B. Food. | 737xd | +5 | 749 | 562 |
| Aldi. | 506 | +3 | 523 | 404 |
| Alliance & Life | 885 | +14 | 915 | 785 |
| Alliance Unicom | 724 | +7 | 734 | 488 |
| AMVESCO | 325 | +4 | 460 | 261 |
| Anglo | 1254 | +16 | 1420 | 1072 |
| Antipagasta | 1130 | -20 | 1258 | 836 |
| Astrazeneca | 2114 | +37 | 2429 | 2045 |
| Aviva | 605 | +17 | 613 | 457 |
| BAA | 595xd | +7 | 595 | 462 |
| B&S Sys. | 253 | +3 | 254 | 159 |
| Bardays | 552 | +1 | 576 | 443 |
| BIG Grp. | 353 | -8 | 380 | 273 |
| BHP Bill | 588 | -14 | 621 | 432 |
| BDO Grp. | 938 | +1 | 949 | 791 |
| Boots Group | 639xd | +8 | 752 | 596 |
| BP | 515xd | -16 | 556 | 412 |
| BT Airways | 234 | +8 | 332 | 199 |
| BT Amer. Int. | 879 | +2 | 883 | 744 |
| BT Land | 825 | +11 | 837 | 548 |
| BSkyB | 570 | +8 | 776 | 465 |
| Bund | 119 | +2 | 199 | 159 |
| Cable & Wire | 113 | +1 | 153 | 96 |
| Cadbury-Sch. | 470 | +1 | 476 | 374 |
| Cain Energy | 1457 | +67 | 1570 | 35 |
| Capita Group | 354 | -1 | 370 | 224 |

| Company | Price | Change | High | Low |
|-------------------|--------|--------|------|------|
| Carnival | 2998xd | +63 | 3050 | 2053 |
| Centrica | 253 | +7 | 290 | 211 |
| Compass Group | 234 | +3 | 385 | 213 |
| Corus Group | 54 | +5 | 56 | 29 |
| Daily Mail | 726 | +1 | 780 | 607 |
| Diageo | 740 | +6 | 780 | 657 |
| Dixons Grp. | 148 | -1 | 176 | 131 |
| Emp. | 814 | +7 | 955 | 688 |
| Ent. Inc. | 663 | -17 | 688 | 490 |
| Exel | 753 | +16 | 789 | 682 |
| Friends Prov. | 159 | +4 | 160 | 123 |
| Gallagher Grp. | 719 | +1 | 724 | 582 |
| GlaxoSmithKline | 112xd | +12 | 1311 | 1042 |
| GUS | 890 | +6 | 912 | 713 |
| Hanson | 427 | +1 | 451 | 360 |
| Hays | 122 | +1 | 145 | 111 |
| HBO | 765 | +13 | 781 | 663 |
| Hilton Grp. | 257 | +2 | 284 | 212 |
| HSBC Hldgs. | 895xd | +5 | 953 | 784 |
| Imp. Chem. | 100 | +3 | 247 | 184 |
| Int. Tobacco Grp. | 1379 | +28 | 1379 | 1056 |
| Intercon. Hotel | 673 | +2 | 692 | 480 |
| ITV | 108xd | -1 | 148 | 94 |
| Johnson Matthey | 1000xd | -10 | 1032 | 841 |

| Company | Price | Change | High | Low |
|------------------|--------|--------|------|------|
| Kingfisher | 299 | +6 | 317 | 270 |
| Land Secs. | 1300 | +16 | 1320 | 960 |
| Legal & Gen. | 112 | +4 | 112 | 87 |
| Lib. Int. | 892 | +2 | 899 | 650 |
| Lloyds Tsb Grp. | 420 | +3 | 476 | 391 |
| Man Group | 1474xd | -16 | 1856 | 1155 |
| Marika & Sp. | 335xd | +2 | 368 | 254 |
| Mano2 | 117 | +1 | 119 | 75 |
| Morrison (Wm) | 223xd | -1 | 256 | 171 |
| National Grid | 478 | +1 | 486 | 379 |
| Next | 164xd | +13 | 1705 | 1079 |
| Nth. Rock | 745 | +6 | 789 | 670 |
| Old Mutual | 135 | +4 | 135 | 90 |
| Parent | 619 | +5 | 681 | 579 |
| Prudential | 434 | +10 | 533 | 386 |
| Reckitt Benck. | 1553 | +16 | 1606 | 1238 |
| REXAM | 451 | +6 | 467 | 403 |
| Reed Elsevier | 473 | +14 | 542 | 445 |
| Renkoll Int'l. | 143 | +1 | 208 | 136 |
| Restors Grp. | 387 | +1 | 429 | 228 |
| Rio Tinto | 1521 | -19 | 1574 | 1212 |
| Rolls-Royce | 264xd | +3 | 269 | 166 |
| Royal Bank Scot. | 1656 | +18 | 1754 | 1454 |
| Royal Sun All. | 75 | +2 | 109 | 68 |

| Company | Price | Change | High | Low |
|---------------------|-------|--------|------|-----|
| SAB | 856xd | -6 | 884 | 537 |
| Sage Grp. | 199 | +4 | 207 | 155 |
| Sainsbury(J) | 259xd | -1 | 359 | 242 |
| Schroders W. | 699 | +10 | 735 | 535 |
| Schroders W. | 631 | -3 | 668 | 496 |
| Scot. & Newcastle | 432 | +2 | 444 | 361 |
| Scot. & Sth. Engrg. | 826 | +3 | 839 | 637 |
| Scot. Power | 389xd | -3 | 443 | 350 |
| Severn Trent | 843 | +38 | 947 | 700 |
| Shell | 437 | -3 | 448 | 348 |
| Shire Pharm. | 528 | -5 | 571 | 436 |
| Smith & Nephew | 545 | +6 | 614 | 439 |
| Smiths Grp. | 768 | +1 | 821 | 619 |
| Stand. Chart. | 989 | -7 | 1035 | 833 |
| Tesco | 310 | +5 | 310 | 237 |
| Tomkins | 250 | +1 | 287 | 241 |
| Unilever | 488 | +7 | 576 | 443 |
| Unit Utilities | 601 | +2 | 604 | 472 |
| Vodafone Grp. | 146xd | -1 | 149 | 114 |
| Whitbread | 816xd | +17 | 853 | 701 |
| William Hill | 524xd | +4 | 559 | 400 |
| Wolsey | 893 | +6 | 971 | 740 |
| WPP Grp. | 582 | +4 | 643 | 469 |
| Xstrata | 928 | -22 | 952 | 570 |
| Yell Grp. | 426xd | -5 | 436 | 296 |

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